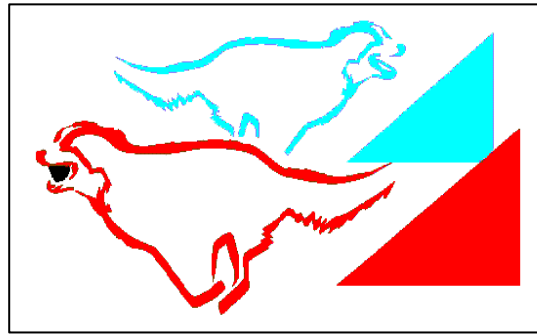


**THE
FLYBALL
RECORD**



**British
Flyball
Association**

ISSUE NOVEMBER 2000

Seasons Greetings

The Officers & Committee
would like to wish
all our members

**A very
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year**



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Items for the next Issue of the Flyball Record must be received by 1st January 2001

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Northampton
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Editor@flyball.org.uk

Hello Flyballers

Thanks very much to all the members who sent in contributions for this issue of the Flyball Record. As you will notice we have gone from 20 pages to 24 simply because I have received the material required. I will look forward to receiving some nice Christmassy items for the February Issue.

The year of the Millennium has been a good year for BFA. There are so many new Teams, so many Teams improving their times and with times of each Team being so close, any division can be won by a different Team each time. This of course makes racing all the more exciting and we can no longer take for granted that a particular Team is going to win. *So the moral is – If you win, enjoy it, but don't be disappointed if your Team fails on it's next outing. Just keep trying.*

I have started a Training page in this Issue and with Peter Robert's (BFA Committee Trainer) initiative I have printed out the Flyball lanes, try asking your Team members (especially the new ones) what the lane measurements are? Anyway, I would like to ask everyone to **please send me your favourite Training Tips**. I'm sure other members would be very interested.

Christmas is coming and I would like to pass on a warning to all our dog owners. Please be careful with the chocolates that are always around at this time of the year (on the Christmas tree or by your chair). Chocolate is bad news for our pets, chocolate contains theobromine which is harmless to humans but can make a dog have convulsions. Just 200 grams could kill a pet the size of a Labrador.

Have a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Hoping to hear from you – Jean (Ed)

Just a reminder: The only current BFA PO Box is:-
**PO Box 263
Fareham
Hants
PO16 OXB**

Do not use any other address for official BFA Forms

THE CHAIRMANS SLOT

As our sport progresses at a very encouraging rate, I have noticed some very pleasing aspects this year. As well as the near *explosion of Flyball in the North*, it's very satisfying to see the *many new Teams willing to take the vast step of putting on a Tournament*. The comments made on the Web discussion board show that they are being very successful. It takes a great deal of time, planning and effort, not to mention money. It is always a bit of a financial gamble to put on a show, there are no guarantees that it will pay for itself, it's surprising that Teams manage to keep entry fees so low. It takes months of planning, and a mad rush just prior to the show day and a mass of people power to lay out the show and ring and operate on the day. It took less than an hour to dismantle the show at Congleton, it took at least ten times that to put it altogether. Late entries and withdrawals do not help this, but that's Flyball as we know it. When attending a show next time and things get a bit disorganised or something happens you don't like – *stop*, think about the effort that's gone into it all. These Host Teams are making a very big undertaking and we should all be very thankful that they do, we have seen many new and good venues this year. Hope we see some more next year, well done and thank you

The BFA Summer Championship went well, with success spread across the board. It was good to see so many lower division teams coming away with a Team Cup and Gold, Silver & Bronze medals, after all they work just as hard if not harder than the first division teams. *Congratulations to the PODS, the BFA Summer Champions*. They travel the length and breadth of the country promoting our sport, sometimes forfeiting a Tournament in their efforts and they put on many good shows, sometimes in very difficult circumstances. They put a lot of time, money and effort into Flyball and it was good to have such a deserving winner. Congratulations to the teams who managed to win a trophy or medals and thanks to all the teams who competed (it wouldn't be a Championship without you), keep trying, next year it could be you.

The most pleasing aspect of this years Flyball is the return of the *friendly atmosphere*, it has been building for some time. At Congleton, as at previous events it was superb. Everyone pleasant and good-natured with lots of good humoured ribbing and bantering. Teams in the ring helping each other has always happened, but there is a general good feeling, which even the rain could not dampen it. All the Teams were there to win, many do not win, but it does not stop them enjoying themselves. Long may it continue.

We are now working towards the winter shows, so we can all look forward to driving hundreds of miles in the cold, rain and darkness, with very little sleep – *and enjoying it !!!!!*

ROY HISCOCK (Chairman)

WHO AM I?

Naughty _____ is my name I like to run in every lane,
If your ball looks better than mine, I'll beat you to it every time.
They scream at me to come back now, but what the heck I don't know how.
My Team they jump, shout and frown, but to the others I'm a clown,
So when it is my turn to run, I'll show you Flyball is such fun!

YOUR COMMITTEE NEWS

Main points arising from the Committee Meeting held on 2nd September 2000

COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Chris Fulford has reconsidered his resignation from the Committee and has been happily welcomed back. He will take up the Membership Secretary's role.

Andy Bawden is now Vice Chairman and Alison Booth takes over as Show Secretary.

Roy Hiscock	- Chairman	Doreen Smith	- Regional Reps Co-ordinator
Graham Nye	- Acting Secretary	Peter Roberts	- Training
Robert Henshall	- Treasurer & Disciplinary Sub Committee	Andy Bawden	- Vice Chairman & Disciplinary Sub Committee
Alison Booth	- Show Secretary	Betty Potts	- Disciplinary Sub Committee
Chris Fulford	- Membership Secretary		

THE GETTING STARTED PACKS

Thoughts on the New Starter Packs to advertise and train Flyball to new Members/Teams etc. were further discussed and additions & amendments would be put in hand with the possibility of a video being produced. *(The Committee would still like to hear from any members who have video footage to offer).* Quite a few enquiries are made from Clubs wanting Flyball information; a video would be a simple way of helping these people get started

JUDGES HEAD/JUDGES SEMINAR

This Seminar, taking place in Thetford on the 19th November will be for Head Judges to update or re-qualify as such. It is also available for provisional Judges and for anyone who wants to know more about Judging our sport. It will be a workshop and discussion based course with a chance for all participants to have some input into the way our sport is judged.

Hopefully it would also give Andy Bawden some feedback on the subject of the review of 'Judges Appointment and Appraisal System'. The Committee would like to hear members comments or views on this subject.

There will also be a Sanctioned Tournament the following day.

OVERSEAS GUEST TEAMS

Team Registration Numbers 991A, B and C have been created to accommodate such Teams.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Confirmed as remaining healthy – Details are available to current BFA Members on request.

BUSINESS PLAN/BUDGET

Continues in preparation. It is intended to be ready at the April 2001 Annual General Meeting.

FLYBALL RECORD

The Committee has confirmed that the Flyball Record will continue to be issued quarterly. (This will be February, May, August and November).

WEBSITE

In the light of reported difficulties in Teams obtaining equipment, a proposal to 'advertise' possible suppliers on the Website is currently being pursued with the Webmaster, Nigel's, co-operation.

GUIDANCE to SHOW ORGANISERS

In future Guidance to Show Organisers would include the use of BFA standard forms for Round Robin Competitions and Uniform Lane Layout. Prior knowledge to competing teams would be advised when Hand Timing was to be used and ideally, only Head Judges should man the lines and Stopwatches in this situation. The use of only approved Dog Measuring Equipment would also be incorporated.

BFA LIGHTS

The BFA's own set of lights was accepted in principle but efforts by individual teams to produce a satisfactory set has not been entirely successful. This subject would be kept under review. Costs possibly running into thousands are a stumbling block but would be considered within the framework of the Business Plan. A 'wish list' of the operational requirements would be produced which, subject to approval, would become the BFA basic rules for a set.

SPLITTING RACING WITHIN ONE DIVISION OVER TWO DAYS

This would be acceptable if clearly specified on the Tournament Schedule. Experiment with this suggestion may be tried next year.

FLYBALL POINTS

Alison Booth is to research various permutations re Flyball Points for consideration at subsequent meetings and possible submission to the membership at the A.G.M. ***Membership input would be welcome here, what do you think about the points system? Are you happy with the way it runs at the moment, or do you think something should be changed. Help Alison, send her your ideas or thoughts.***

The British Flyball Association's Annual General Meeting will be held on the 1st April 2001.

The Next Committee Meeting will be 3rd December 2000. If you have anything you want discussed please forward your items to the Acting Secretary, Graham Nye.

RESULTS

STONELEIGH 27th AUGUST 2000

DIVISION FIVE Judge – Robert Allan

1 st	Brat Pack	22.23
2 nd	Wakefield Terror Tykes	23.23
3 rd	Scallywaggers	22.38
4 th	Wolf Cubs	26.23
5 th	Podlers	23.53

DIVISION FOUR Judge - Sue Hagger

1 st	Fylde Coasters	21.34
2 nd	Green Dragons	21.66
3 rd	Nuneaton Flyers Bees	22.99
4 th	Killa Bytes	22.56
5 th	Border Patrol UK	23.77

DIVISION THREE Judge – Anne Johnson

1 st	Nuneaton Flyers	19.32
2 nd	MegaBytes	20.69
3 rd	Bristol Ball-istics	20.71
4 th	Sheffield Speeders	21.83
5 th	Running 4 Mutts	22.27

DIVISION TWO Judge – Mo Hiscock

1 st	Podlets	19.24
2 nd	Buccaneers	19.09
3 rd	Barkshire Bullets	19.72
4 th	Northern Bytes	19.86
5 th	Wolf Pack	19.51



DIVISION ONE Judge - Sam Bawden

1 st	Barkshire Bandits	18.35
2 nd	PODS	18.25
3 rd	Wakefield Tykes	18.88
4 th	Mad Mutts	18.54
5 th	Scallywags	19.43



PAIRS FINAL Judge – Neil Meeking

1 st	Fern & Jade	9.22
2 nd	Bess & Sally	8.97
3 rd	Cassie & Tia	10.04
4 th	Jess & Gill	10.21

SINGLES TRIALS Judge – Neil Meeking

1 st	Edythe & Sally Spice	4.34
2 nd	Helen & Jade	4.36
3 rd	Ray & Bess	4.46
4 th	Jackie & Fern	4.73



STARTERS Judge – Ann Johnson

1 st	Fylde Coasters	19.73
2 nd	Nuneaton Frisbys	21.37
3 rd	Mutts 4 Fun	25.26
4 th	Yorkshire Bouncers	23.70
5 th	Nuneaton Newcomers	33.93



DOGGED DRIVER

A gentleman from Norwich, is to appear before magistrates in the city charged with carrying an unsecured load after police spotted his Jack Russell terrier, Flossie, riding in the basket of his moped.

He said “She loves going out on the moped”.

THANK YOU LETTERS to the HOST TEAM at STONELEIGH

Dear Peter, Delia & all the PODS,

We arrived home very tired after a great days Flyball Racing. Thank you very much for all your hard work, you must have felt very tired as well.

We got off to a very bad start with our racing, but in the end it came to an exciting run-off. Flyball is fun, you never know what is going to happen!

See you soon, **JUNE & JACK** (Bristol Ball-istics)

[illegible]

Dear Peter, Delia & PODS

Many thanks for yet another thoroughly enjoyable PODS Flyball Tournament. We really appreciate the effort that you all put in to stage an event and also the friendly, relaxed and yet still competitive atmosphere at your events.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

NICKY, STEF, JANE, ELAINE, KIRSTIE, MARK, PAT, & the Dogs. (Green Dragons)

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Ed's note: If any other Host Teams receive lovely mail like the above, feel free to send it to me I will be only too happy to put them with the results.

FRIENDLY FLYBALLERS

Sheffield Speeders (not Speedsters, Speedos or speedys as we are sometimes written down as), are a relatively newly registered team, from – guess where – Sheffield! If you think you've seen us before, you have. We used to be the Blade Runners, the second team of the Four Runners. When the other two founder members of Four Runners decided to call it a day, the team disbanded and I was left with no alternative but to re-register with a new name, so we could continue racing.

The collapse of our old team has left us “short staffed” but undaunted. We compete with four handlers, five dogs and no box loader. We are extremely grateful to the kind people who volunteer at the last minute to box load for our team at competitions – without you we could not compete. We are also indebted to the unsuspecting victims we nab to hold our reserve dog during racing. Friendly Flyballers are our lifeline – **Thank You one and all.**

LINDA POWELL

Team Captain Sheffield Speeders.

THANKS

Peter Roberts and **Starlite** would like to say thank you for her **Silver Award**. Particular thanks go to the PODS team, without them it wouldn't have been possible.

POPPY'S STORY

I had promised I would write down Poppy's story for the Flyball Record, once she had achieved her Flyball Dog award, so here we go.

Poppy is the Jack Russell Terrier you may have seen running for the Brat Pack. Poppy's early weeks are a bit of an unknown, but we do know that her owners took her to the vets at seven weeks with a tummy full of sticks, bones and dirt. The bill for removing it all was over £200 and the owners just left her at the vets. Another patient of the practice who was keen on Jack Russells offered to take her home to live with her other five terriers.

In May 1998 my 18-year-old Alsation X decided enough was enough and I had to make that sad journey to the vets. Why does it always happen on a Bank Holiday Monday? My husband had taken the girls and horses to a show and was asked where I was. On explaining, he was asked if we would like a Jack Russell who needed a home. Tony said I might be interested as I had always fancied having a mini agility dog. Understandably, I was far too distressed to even contemplate the idea. A few days later, the lady phoned me up but I still could not even discuss it.

Mid June and we went off to do agility at Walsall and I watched all the mini dogs flying round the course, barking their little heads off and wondered if I should think about the little Jack Russell. A phone call later we were introduced to Poppy.

We were faced with a very frightened 10-month-old bitch, who had a strange red tinge to her skin, particularly her face and she screamed when you picked her up. The latter was, we were told, due to her previous experience with the vet and rubber gloves and nothing to worry about. Later that week, Poppy arrived on trial and within half an hour had made herself at home. Within two days she came into season, we were not sure if this was trauma or feeling at home. Poppy was here to stay and we soon realised that she had not had any vaccinations so we whisked her off to the vet. Her skin troubled them but we felt sure it couldn't be anything serious. I kept asking about her squealing when you picked her up and they kept saying it was nothing!

After every type of skin treatment had failed we agreed for her to go in for a general anaesthetic and a skin scrape. The scrape revealed dermatitic mange and the horrible chemical baths commenced. For those of you who do not know about this type of mange, the mite is everywhere in the environment but only strikes when the immune system is low e.g. human beings tend to get it when they have AIDS.

That weekend we had arranged to go to a BFA competition at Newark but were happy that this was not a problem as there was nothing contagious. What we didn't bargain for was the fact that the death of the mites in her skin would cause her to scratch till she bled. We phoned the vet who said nothing could be done because the only thing to stop her scratching was steroids and they could compromise her immune system even more.

The next few weeks were anxious because everyone kept telling us about their "friends dog" who had that type of mange and had died eventually due to leukemia or some other disease. No one seemed to know of a dog who had survived!

Three chemical baths on and we were feeling optimistic. Another general anaesthetic was needed for another skin scrape so we booked her in for that and to be spayed at the same time. There was bad news on two counts:-

- 1) There were still mites on her skin.
- 2) They had accidentally squeezed her ovaries on removal releasing loads of hormones. This caused her to bag up with milk, which was really sore with her operation scar.

She was so miserable she just sat and trembled.

Once her stitches were out, the chemical baths recommenced. I hope none of you ever have to do this to an animal of yours. The chemical is really potent and you have to wear gloves to apply it. I used to have a sore throat for days after doing it, let alone Poppy who was having it poured over her head. No wonder she has a bit of a wheeze now and picks up coughs all the time.

Whilst this was all going on I was getting more worried about her right hip because she rarely put that foot to the ground but the vets kept saying that Jack Russell's always hop. Once she was given the all clear as far as mites were concerned, I insisted on being referred to an orthopaedic specialist who diagnosed Perths disease. She needed an operation to remove the top of her femur which was crumbling away into the joint.

She had the operation in February 1999 and refused to rest quietly afterwards. She was so used to the pain in her hip and running around on three legs, it was business as usual to her. Eventually the stitches came out and she could start swimming to build up the muscles. Swimming has proved to be Poppy's favourite hobby and she swims for the whole of the 45 minutes we have the pool booked. Her favourite bit is mugging her friends who can't swim as well as her and stealing all of the squeaky toys.

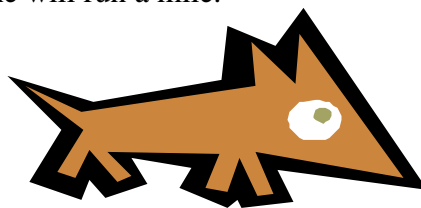
In August of that year at the Town & Country Festival, Poppy did her first successful run down the Flyball lane. The fact that she only managed it once over the whole of the three-day show was neither here nor there. I was beside myself with pride. Since then, she has not looked back and is key member of the team. She gained her Flyball Dog Award in March of this year and I was so proud of her achievements, less than one year after her hip operation.

In the Agility Eye magazine the other month, it said that dogs with Perths disease have no hip joint and will never be able to do agility or flyball. Poppy is the exception that proves the rule. OK so she won't do agility but that's because she doesn't like it, not because she can't.

Obviously she needs to keep fit for the muscles to hold her leg in place, so she still has a weekly swim and as she gets older she will have problems. Like everything else she has endured I am sure she will do so with great courage and we will always be proud of her.

So please forgive us next time she comes charging up to you barking and growling on the exercise area, she doesn't mean it really and if you bark back she will run a mile.

CHRISTINE GARDNER
Mum to Pandora, Poppy & Solomon



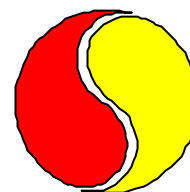
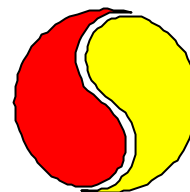
TO *ALL* TEAM CAPTAINS/MANAGERS

When any of your team members are renewing their BFA membership or you have any new members applying for membership, could you **please try and ensure that the correct fees are enclosed**. Unfortunately, sending incorrect fees causes delays in processing.

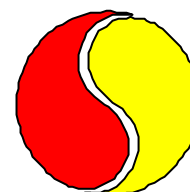
Please use the following ***‘Pro-rata’ table until next April***, when **ALL** Memberships are due for renewal.

New Members & Lapsed Members

	Nov 2000	Dec 2000	Jan 2001	Feb 2001	Mar 2001
SINGLE					
Joining Fee	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Membership Fee	4.00	3.25	2.50	1.50	0.00
Total	6.50	5.75	5.00	4.00	2.50
JOINT					
Joining Fee	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Membership Fee	6.00	4.75	3.75	2.25	0.00
Total	8.50	7.25	6.25	4.75	2.50
FAMILY					
Joining	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Membership Fee	8.00	6.50	5.00	3.00	0.00
Total	10.50	9.00	7.50	5.50	2.50

**Renewal (excluding Lapsed)**

	Nov 2000	Dec 2000	Jan 2001	Feb 2001	Mar 2001
SINGLE Membership Fee	4.00	3.25	2.50	1.50	0.00
JOINT Membership Fee	6.00	4.50	3.75	2.25	0.00
FAMILY Membership Fee	8.00	6.50	5.00	3.00	0.00



Note: Lapsed membership = More than one month after member's renewal date.

Please use the current BFA P.O. Box for all correspondence:-

PO Box 263, Fareham, Hants PO16 0XB

Many Thanks

CHRIS FULFORD - *Membership Secretary*

[illegible]

RESULTS

SECOND SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP - CONGLETON 5TH AUGUST 2000

DIVISION THREE Judge - Neil Meeking

1 st	Sheffield Speeders	21.09
2 nd	Fylde Coasters	22.38
3 rd	Podlers	24.81
4 th	Nuneaton Flyers Bees	23.63
5 th	Killa Bytes	23.53
6 th	Wakefield Terror Tykes	22.97

DIVISION TWO Judge – Neil Meeking

1 st	Rocket Reaction	19.37
2 nd	Wolf Pack	19.84
3 rd	Maple Leafs	19.88
4 th	Mega Bytes	21.00
5 th	Nuneaton Flyers	20.21
6 th	Melton Foxes	20.61



DIVISION ONE Judge – Anne Johnson

1 st	PODS	17.66
2 nd	Melton Rovers	18.34
3 rd	Mad Mutts	18.52
4 th	Wakefield Tykes	19.28
5 th	Podlets	19.13
6 th	Northern Bytes	19.65



XX

ROVERS RETURN

George, a Yorkshire terrier missing for three years, has been reunited with his owner – thanks to a microchip implanted under his skin containing his details. His delighted owner from Bristol, said that she was overjoyed when a vet rang to tell her that he had been found. But – where had he been for three years?

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THIRD SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP – ALTHORNE 19TH AUGUST 2000

DIVISION THREE Judge – Wayne O'Rourke

1 st	Bristol Ball-istics	21.04
2 nd	Podlings	20.98
3 rd	Running 4 Mutts	21.44
4 th	Killa Bytes	23.25
5 th	Katies Cruisers	NFC

DIVISION TWO Judge – Andy Bawden

1 st	Rocket Reaction	19.53
2 nd	K9ers	19.90
3 rd	Buccaneers	19.73
4 th	Mega Bytes	21.20
5 th	Maple Leafs	20.97

DIVISION ONE Judge – Wayne O'Rourke

1 st	Barkshire Bandits	17.99
2 nd	Mad Mutts	18.83
3 rd	PODS	18.42
4 th	Scallywags	20.30
5 th	Northern Bytes	20.28

BRITISH FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP 2000

DIVISION ONE

<i>Gold Medal winners</i>	PODS
<i>Silver “ “</i>	Melton Rovers
<i>Bronze “ “</i>	Mad Mutts

DIVISION TWO

<i>Gold Medal winners</i>	Wolf Pack
<i>Silver “ “</i>	Scallywags
<i>Bronze “ “</i>	Mega Bytes

DIVISION THREE

<i>Gold Medal winners</i>	Killa Bytes
<i>Silver “ “</i>	Podlings
<i>Bronze “ “</i>	Podlers

DIVISION FOUR

<i>Gold Medal winners</i>	Wakefield Terror Tykes
<i>Silver “ “</i>	K9ers
<i>Bronze “ “</i>	Buccaneers

DIVISION FIVE

<i>Gold Medal winners</i>	Running 4 Mutts
<i>Silver “ “</i>	Shooting Stars
<i>Bronze “ “</i>	Bassett Allsorts

The PODS Team feel fortunate, honoured and very proud to have received the Summer Championship Trophy (and what a Trophy, better than any FA Cup). To have received this accolade is something the PODS will remember for a long time. With so many teams improving and performing so well, we are lucky to have succeeded in running well at the right time.

We have to thank every member of the PODS (not just the first team), without their support at training, as well as at events, it wouldn't have been possible. We would also like to thank the BFA Committee for running the competition, for the Host Teams who organised each of the events and to Sam for her hard work in obtaining and arranging the Trophies & Medals for each of the Five Divisions. Lastly we would like to thank all the other Teams we competed against.

The **PODS FLYBALL TEAM** were:-



Neil Meeking	-	Box Loader
Michael Roberts	with	Lizzie
Peter Roberts	with	Star
Jean Meeking	with	Chica
Debbie Bagg	with	Amy
Eileen Durrans	with	Jess
Delia Roberts	with	George



PROFILE OF THE PODS

Delia & Peter Roberts are our Team Leaders and the backbone of the PODS. They are more experienced than the rest of us put together. With their son Michael they belonged to the Flyball Enthusiasts (some said Flyball Fanatics) long before the B.F.A. came into being. They were founder members and part of the inaugural meeting of the B.F.A. in January 1994.

The PODS name happened by chance. During the Flyball Enthusiasts days it was a case of “what shall we run as today”, but it should so happen that Delia & Peter’s eldest son ran a small business putting Logo’s onto T shirts etc. and had supplied a number to an Operatic & Drama Society (they shall be nameless but it began with a P), they were a bit pernickety about things and returned them, so the Flyball Team used them and the PODS name stuck. We actually call ourselves Petes Odd Dogs Society’. Delia would prefer Practical Obedience & Dog Sports!

The PODS go all out to train newcomers and give Demonstrations, big or small, even missing sanctioned shows to promote the sport of Flyball. During one week we travelled to Nuneaton on the Monday evening, to teach them Crufts Flyball but took our BFA box (they are now the Nuneaton Flyers), we trained new handlers at our own field on Tuesday & Thursday evening and then spent all day Saturday at Letchworth training another group.

We have had many members run under the PODS umbrella, but encourage them to break away and form their own teams as soon as they have enough participants in their area. A few teams that come to mind are the Rugby Renegades, the Melton Rovers, the Wolf Pack from Birmingham and even Nicky Dickenson from Wales ran with the PODS until the Red Dragons were formed.

We obviously lose some good dogs but it’s very rewarding to see the new teams form and progress, and because of our ‘turn-over’ we have as many as four teams on the go, our first team is PODS, second team PODlets, third team PODlings and our fourth team are the PODlers (I’ve always wanted the Senna PODS, but no-one will run in it).

We have put on Demonstrations at numerous Fayres & Fetes, but have also performed at many large events such as Stoneleigh Town & Country, we have attended the Game Fayre two years running, performing three times a day for three days, but our biggest captive audience of 7000 people each night must be at the Military Tattoo in Birmingham. This year on 25th & 26th November 2000 will be our fourth visit to Birmingham and earlier on this year we aspired to the first London International Tattoo, held at the Wembley Arena. The organisers and the public must enjoy it to keep inviting us back and it’s great PR for British Flyball.

Periodically we have thoughts about having a new mascot, but the Team have decided to stick with the old one, the old one being ‘Gladys’, Peter’s 96 year old mother who is always with us. After all we may lose her occasionally in the crowds when we are racing but she seems to have brought us luck this year.



FLYBALL IS FUN

Sitting in the vets waiting room one evening when taking one of my dogs for a routine booster vaccination I picked up a leaflet which advertised 'Agility and Flyball for Fun'.

Having done competitive obedience for a number of years the thought of doing some agility seemed a good idea. One of my dogs, Maddie, is quite a sensitive little girl and I thought the agility may help her gain confidence.

The following evening I rang the number on the leaflet and that's how I met our Team Manager, June, she's the lonely box-loader. I enrolled for the agility and after a couple of weeks June mentioned Flyball, she said if the dogs like a tennis ball they usually love Flyball, and how true this is.

So the next week I decided to take 'Blizzy' along, she has always been a manic retrieve dog so fetching the tennis ball proved to be no problem. A few weeks later I took Blizzy's son 'Ozzie' and he also took to Flyball. We then introduced two of Blizzy's daughters to the sport, Jazz & Misty, and that is how our addiction to Flyball started.

As the weeks went by the dogs progressed well with the training and June mentioned a competition, "Oh no" said I "I'm only doing it for fun", but with a little persuasion our first competition was entered, this was October 1999 at Market Harborough.

Jazz & Ozzie ran with the Melton B's and Misty & Blizzy ran with the Fox's, boy, didn't they have fun. If I recall it correctly nearly all the races were lost on interference, our dogs had a great time, retrieving a ball from the other teams box, and generally running riot. A competition never to be forgotten.

The following indoor competitions all went well and one by one the dogs were promoted to the 'Melton Rovers' Team, however the first outdoor competition brought us back down to earth with a bang, Blizzy & Misty seemed to forget that they needed to go and come back over the jumps, so there we were running in Division One "NOT FOR COMPETITION".

Things improved greatly again over the next few months and our best weekend so far was at Malmesbury, where we came first in Division One, and also won the Technical Challenge with our fastest ever time of 17.89 seconds. The teams next ambition is to beat the PODS, but we have a long way to go before we do that, don't we Jean!

I am very proud of Blizzy and her offspring, it is very satisfying to have bred these keen Flyball dogs, especially as they all run in the same team. I also know that Sharon, who owns Storme, the sire of these dogs is also just as proud. I have a merle youngster, a daughter of Blizzy & Storme, she is fourteen months old. Indi, is just beginning her training and I hope she follows in her older brother and sisters footsteps.

In case you do not know the team, we are the ones with the four Merle Collies which bark from the car to the ring, just to let everyone know they enjoy their Flyball.

Now back to Maddie, her agility training was progressing nicely, and then June mentioned 'Cleverdogs' which is Agility & Flyball combined, so the Flyball training began for Maddie. At first

Flyball Record Editor

CHARLTON PARK RESULTS - 26TH August 2000

DIVISION ONE Judge - Gwain Theobald

1 st	Melton Rovers	18.10
2 nd	Buccaneers	19.34
3 rd	Barkshire Bandits	18.57
4 th	Bassett Hotdogs	19.66
5 th	Maple Leafs	20.22
6 th	Wacky Racers	20.49

DIVISION TWO Judge – Lorraine Fulford

1 st	Melton Foxes	20.14
2 nd	Springboks	19.98
3 rd	Bristol Ball-istics	20.65
4 th	Katies Cruisers	21.51
5 th	Bassett Allsorts	21.99
6 th	Bassett Doggy Mixtures	23.30

CHRISTCHURCH RESULTS – 17th September 2000 Head Judge - Kevin McNicholas

DIVISION ONE

1 st	Barkshire Bandits	17.91
2 nd	Tornadoes	18.78
3 rd	Barkshire Bullets	19.23
4 th	Buccaneers	19.34
5 th	Maple Leafs	19.85

DIVISION TWO

1 st	Bristol Ball-istics	21.04
2 nd	Bad Dog Meecos	20.75
3 rd	Wacky Racers	21.14
4 th	Bassett Allsorts	22.40



MULTI BREED

1 st	Winchats	21.84
2 nd	Stonechats	23.59
3 rd	Chitchats	24.87
4 th	Just For Fun	23.45



CONGLETON RESULTS – 23rd September 2000

DIVISION ONE Judge – Brian Williams

1 st	Barkshire Bandits	18.22
2 nd	Mad Mutts	18.28
3 rd	Wakefield Tykes	18.89
4 th	Nuneaton Flyers	19.47
5 th	Northern Bytes	20.30
6 th	Melton Rovers	18.56

DIVISION TWO Judge - Robert Allan

1 st	Rocket Reaction	19.18
2 nd	Wolf Pack	19.96
3 rd	Melton Foxes	20.40
4 th	Mega Bytes	20.58
5 th	Fylde Coasters	20.25
6 th	Sheffield Speeders	21.61

DIVISION THREE Judge – Robert Allan

1 st	Running 4 Mutts	22.43
2 nd	Killa Bytes	22.47
3 rd	Wakefield Terror Tykes	23.37
4 th	Nuneaton Cyclones	30.63
5 th	Swifts	NFC

HE B.F.A. DIARY 2000

Key:-

Cl.D = Closing date for entry ST = Sanctioned Tournament
Prs = Pairs racing. Sgl = Singles Racing. MB = Multi Breed
Fun = Fun Classes. D = Demonstration

November 18th

Judges Seminar
Thetford, Norfolk

Contact Roy Hiscock
Tel.01708 557812
Email- madmutts@btinternet.com

November 19th

Thetford Norfolk
Roy Hiscock
Tel. 01708 557812

Mad Mutts
ST, Open

[illegible]

REFLECTION

I would like to reflect on the fun racing, and good evenings spent with enjoyable company during this year. The wet weather and gales, with some eight people hanging on to Gazebos, before we took off for a flight over the local Town. The kind people with a four-wheel drive vehicle towing out our Caravan, when our Toyota gave up the ghost.

We also spent some super warm and balmy evenings eating outside. On one occasion we have video evidence of being inundated with midges, tiny flies and wasps who all demanded their share of our food and drinks, but we still laughed – or was it hysteria!

The dogs of course all enjoyed the racing. I have had my leg pulled many times for getting blue lights and our Team have threatened to write a book of my many and varied excuses (maybe to be published later). However of late I have improved and there will be references to the other colours creeping in!

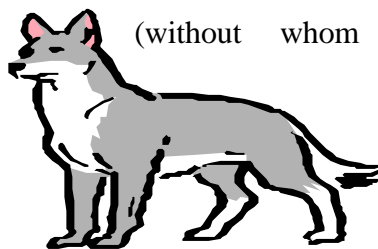
Finally thanks to everyone who helped us out or sent good wishes to Graham, who was racing around the house in a wheelchair at the beginning of the year, following his collision with a low flying Springer at Petersfield – he is now thank goodness fully recovered.

Thanks also to all who put so much effort into running the Shows, enabling us all to spend good weekends away at so many different Venues.

Of course a big thank you to all our Team members  (without whom we could not compete), for travelling round the Country.

Looking forward to next year

PAM NYE (Maple Leafs)



JUDGES & HEAD JUDGES SEMINAR

(organised by the B.F.A.)

at

**THE BRECKLAND LEISURE CENTRE
THETFORD, NORFOLK**

On SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2000

Head Judges £ 20.00 Judges £25.00
(includes Lunch & refreshments during the day)



**Come On All You Prospective Judges, this is a golden opportunity
to learn the ropes and qualify to Judge in the year 2001.
To all you Head Judges, is it time for your refresher course? Remember
you have to attend a Seminar at least once every three years.**

The day will include discussion on the duties of Head Judges, with workshops for members to discuss their views and the Rules and Policies of the BFA. This also includes practical sessions in racing environments.

AGENDA FOR THE DAY

09.30	Tea / coffee / Booking in
10.0	Opening Address
10.15	Duties of a Head Judge, presentation and discussion
10.45	Dog Measuring, practical and discussion
11.30	Tea / Coffee / Dog comfort break
11.45	Ground & Area preparation, presentation and discussion
12.30	Lunch / Dogs again
13.30	Lane setting out, presentation and practical
14.0	BFA Rules and Policies workshop discussion
15.0	Tea / Coffee / Dog comfort break
15.30	Practical scenarios
16.30	Closing address, recap of days points
16.0	Certificate presentation and Seminar closed.

Camping is available on site.

**The following day, SUNDAY 19TH NOVEMBER will be a
Sanctioned Tournament.**

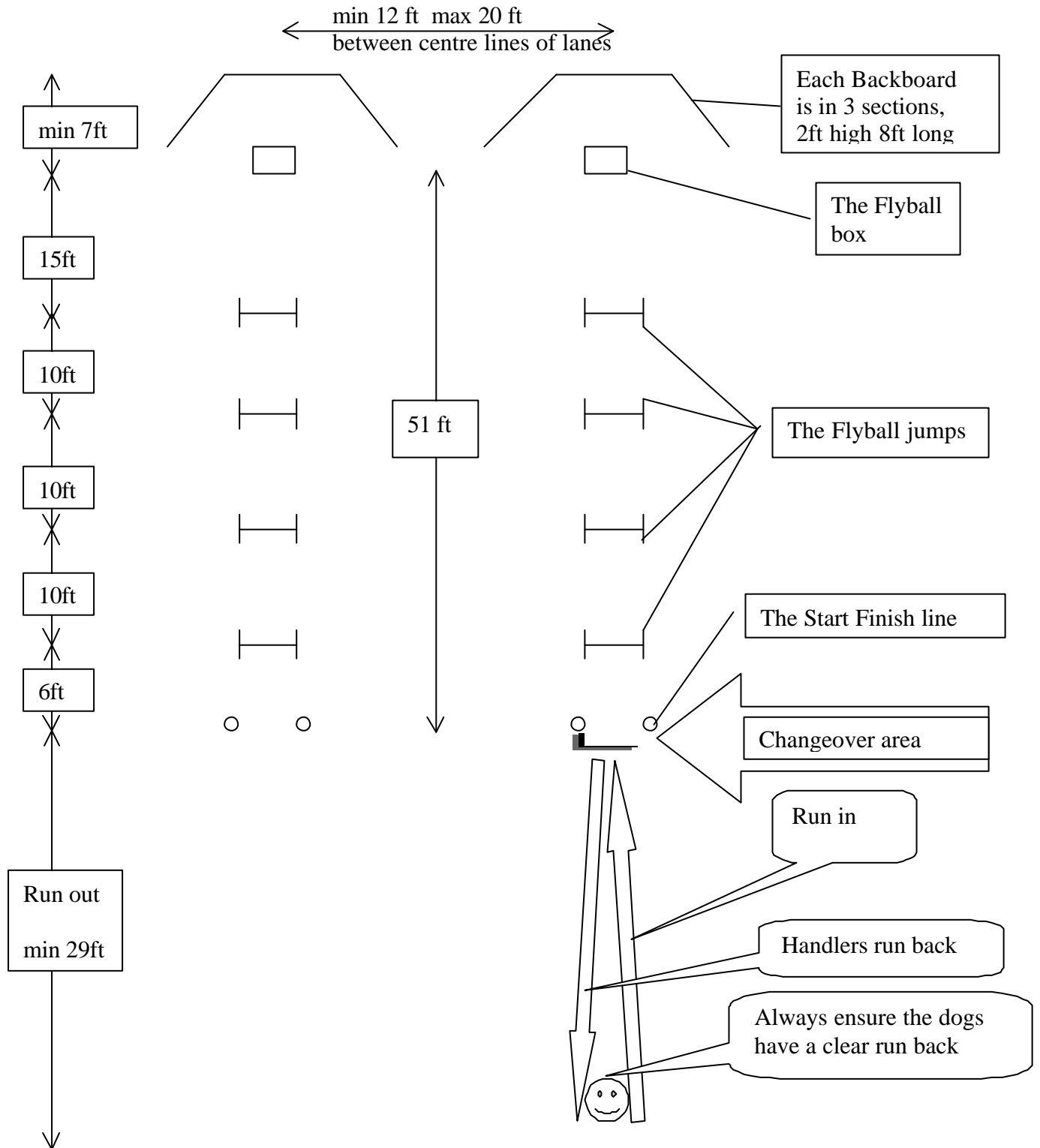
Anyone interested Contact: Roy Hiscock, 38 Grove Park Road, Rainham, Essex RM13 7DA

The Flyball Lanes

ALWAYS SET THE FLYBALL LANES OUT ACCURATELY

Blue Lane (on Left)

Red Lane (on Right)



TAKING THE HOLISTIC APPROACH TO PETS HEALTH

Unlike people, most animals exhibit an instinctive urge to heal themselves when they are ill. In contrast to the commuter who, dosed up with cold or flu remedies, battles into work spluttering over fellow travellers, a sick animal will find a quiet, solitary spot to rest and allow its body to recover. Given the opportunity even domestic pets instinctively chew wild plants such as garlic, dandelions and couchgrass that have healing properties.

But like many of their owners, animals are in danger of becoming a casualty of modern medicine's drug culture. The ethos of a pill for every ill has pervaded the animal world, as human beings inflict our quick-fix style of medicine on our pets – and then stand by helplessly as they suffer the consequences. As any doctor – or vet – will tell you, no drugs exist that do not have some side-effects. No one denies the huge benefits of antibiotics and other potential life-saving drugs but, increasingly, pet owners are questioning the wisdom of dosing their animals with a cocktail of drugs for every ailment.

In Britain there are a wide range of complementary pet therapies and medicines on offer: homeopathy, acupuncture, osteopathy, herbalism and more. Some appear to push our powers of credibility to the limit –until you find that not only do they work, but that there is a scientific explanation.

Arthritis is a common problem in dogs as in humans; medication of anti-inflammatory drugs has many side effects. One owner of an arthritic dog decided to try magnetic pads which were put into the dogs basket, the results were astounding, within 48 hours the dog was springing up the stairs like a puppy again. The owners vet was impressed but noncommittal about the treatment, which works by magnetising the iron atom in the red blood cells and improving the blood supply to the joints, which in turn removes the toxic effects of the degenerative tissue. Studies using infrared imaging show that treated areas are much hotter, because of the increased blood supply.

Wendy Vere, an acupuncturist and vet, reinforces the point that conventional and alternative treatment can often work side by side. Drug therapy has its place, but it's important to remember that there's a strong element of self-healing in all of us – animals and humans. What alternative therapies do is give it a nudge.

Barre' Turner is a homeopathic vet who has been in General Practice for 30 years, he says "I began to realise that drug therapy treats only the symptoms without getting to the root cause of the problem, and as a result I became very interested in a more holistic approach". Although vets are proving slow to accept the value of alternative therapies, Mr. Turner and Ms. Vere say that if enough people show interest in alternatives for their pets, availability will increase. Last year Mr. Turner said he saw a dog with a very bad patch of eczema, when the owner was questioned it turned out that the eczema had started the day after she had the other dog in the household put down because of illness. "I gave the animal Ignatia, the homeopathic remedy for unresolved grief, and the eczema cleared almost immediately. That's the kind of result, which lets me know that I'm on the right track.

For information on alternative therapies visit www.natural-animal-health.co.uk.

The British Holistic Veterinary Association: 0113 2301996

The Association of British Homeopathic Veterinary Surgeons: 01367 718115

Homedics supplies therapeutic magnets: 0161 7985855, www.homedicsuk.com

Current Seed Time (Open) - 14th October 2000

SEED	TEAM	TRN	SEED TIME	SEED	TEAM	TRN	SEED TIME
1	PODS	15	17.66	27	Bristol Ball-istics	18	20.65
2	Barkshire Bandits	17	17.91	28	Whinchats	30	20.66
3	Bad Dog Racers	53	18.00	29	Bad Dog Meecos	53A	20.75
4	Melton Rovers	35	18.10	30	PODlings	15D	20.98
5	Mad Mutts	54	18.28	31	Sheffield Speeders	58	21.09
6	The Rocketeers	34	18.29	32	Bassett Allsorts	11	21.43
7	Wakefield Tykes	46	18.35	33	Running 4 Mutts	54A	21.44
8	Scallywags	59	18.60	34	Katies Cruisers	22A	21.51
9	Tornadoes	04	18.78	35	Green Dragons	37A	21.66
10	PODlets	15A	18.86	36	Test Valley Raiders	45	21.66
11	Buccaneers	25	19.09	37	PODlers	15B	21.76
12	Rocket Reaction	34A	19.18	38	Brat Pack	50A	22.23
13	The Northern Bytes	27	19.19	39	The Killa Bytes	27B	22.47
14	Barkshire Bullets	17C	19.23	40	Stonechats	30A	22.52
15	Nuneaton Flyers	51	19.32	41	Border Patrol (UK)	23	22.57
16	Wolf Pack	50	19.35	42	Wakefield Terrortykes	46A	22.97
17	Red Dragons	37	19.43	43	Nuneaton Flyer Bees	51A	22.99
18	Bassett Hotdogs	11B	19.66	44	Bassett Doggy Mixtures	11A	23.30
19	K9ers	33	19.75	45	Just for Fun	18A	23.45
20	Maple Leafs	49	19.85	46	Wakefield Trickytykes	46B	23.46
21	Springbok's	08	19.98	47	Bristol Ball-istic Missiles	18B	23.53
22	The Mega Bytes	27A	20.00	48	Shooting Stars	01	23.92
23	Melton Foxes	35B	20.14	49	Springers	41	23.92
24	Fylde Coasters	38	20.25	50	Chitchats	30B	24.87
25	Melton B's	35A	20.42	51	Wolf Cubs	50E	26.23
26	Wacky Racers	44	20.49	52	Nuneaton Cyclone	51B	30.63

NOW YOU KNOW WHO I AM!

Naughty BOBBY is my name, I love to play the Flyball game
 Up to the box I do run, 'cos then I will have lots of fun.
 I'll hesitate and look across, another lane , another box,
 The tensions mounting in the air, they pray I won't run over there.
 I look back down the lane to Roy, I know he holds my favourite toy.
 I'll run back now and do my best, that will put their minds at rest.
 I've now fulfilled my only dream and been promoted to top team.
 I'll always keep them on their toes, what will I do next NO ONE KNOWS.
 I've been good now for quite some time, but watch this space for my next
 Rhyme!

NEW MEMBERS (from July 2000)

Eric Badland – Farnborough
Karen Jones – Shepley
Pamela Richie – Grimsby
June Richardson)
Raymond Richardson) – Wakefield Tykes
Carol & Simon Atherton – Norfolk
Teresa, Colin, Jade Burbridge – Shooting Stars
Sarah & Nicholas Tailby – Bristol Ball-istics
Maria Brennan – Northern Bytes
Amanda Dawber – Huddersfield
Alison Sephton – Wolf Pack
Mark Ripley – Wolf Pack
M A Hodgetts – Nuneaton Flyers
Mary Murphy – Leicester
Paula Godden – Shooting Stars
Sarah & Mandy Jobling – Barkshire Bandits
Vivian Oakley – Norfolk Nomads
Sarah Walker – Norfolk Nomads
Anna & Michael Brasted – Greetland Grasshoppers
Annica Kruse – Barkshire Bandits
D Broughton – Start-Rite Wizards
Sheila Farris – Sheffield Speeders
Lin Husher – Whinchats
Sarah North - Buccaneers
Howard Green – Bad Dog Racers
Terry Turton - Sheffield Speeders
Katie Edge – Whinchats
Louise Martin – Northants

Kerri Laver – Barkshire Bandits
Louise & Richard Satchwell – Nuneaton Flyers
Valerie Rothlisberger-Jones - Edlington
Gaye & Peter Jones – Bad Dog Racers
Celine Sanders - Norwich
Isabel Gilbert - Norfolk
Lianne Hallett – Shooting Stars
Pat Evans – Shooting Star
Sarah Price – Shooting Stars
Bernard Court – Scallywags
Helen Fairlie – Wolf Pack
Karen Earl – Norfolk Nomads
F Hands – Nuneaton Flyers
Keith Thorp – Shooting Stars
Venetia & James McVeigh – Mad Mutts
Mandy Brown – Norfolk Nomads
Mrs A Collier – Wolf Pack
John & Diane Hallam – Melton Rovers
Pat Carter – Bad Dog Racers
Herbert & Jasmine Malpass–Barkshire Bandits
Tina Curling – Wolf Pack
Diane Warner – Barkshire Bandits
Janet North – Buccaneers
Eric & Jason Fletcher – Bad Dog Racers
E.A. Inman – Whinchats
Natalie Holtappel – Fylde Coasters
Carolyn Higginson – Fylde Coasters
Ann & Terry Rogerson – Fylde Coasters

GET WELL SOON

All our love and best wishes go to **Alison O'Rourke** for a speedy recovery after her operation.
All your friends from the BFA are thinking of you and wishing you well and looking forward to seeing you fully recovered.

Now for some good news for Alison to think about

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to Wayne O'Rourke's dog **Sonny** who gained his **GOLD AWARD** (15,000 points).
He succeeded in attaining this magnificent award at Christchurch. Sonny, now ten years old can still show the youngsters how to do it.

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**The Committee is pleased to report that Kevin McNicholas
has accepted their proposal that he become the
BFA Publicity Officer.**

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