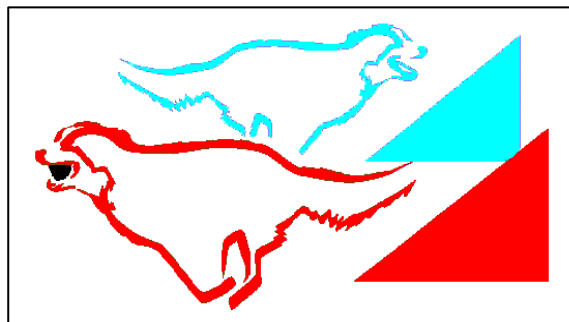


**THE
FLYBALL
RECORD**



**British
Flyball
Association**

ISSUE MAY 2001

Best Overall F/B Dog
& Best W.S./B.C
The Northern Bytes
TUG

Best Jack Russell
Mad Mutts **BOBBY**

CONGRATULATIONS

LARK
Whinchats
Best of the Rest

To The

ANNUAL

AZOR
Best Spanish
Water Dog
*The Northern
Bytes*

AWARD WINNERS

BJ
Wakefield Tykes
Best Labrador

For the

DODGER
Bristol Ball-istics
Best Border Terrier

MISTY
Best Overall F/B
Bitch & Best
Crossbreed
*The
Northern Bytes*

YEAR 2000

B.F.A.
Team of the Year
THE NORTHERN BYTES

Special Team
Award
THE PODS

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

Eds Address:

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Hello Flyballers

The last two or three months haven't been easy for anyone. Training was firstly made difficult with all the wet weather causing water-logged fields. Then came the restrictions imposed by the 'Foot and Mouth' disease and then the cancellations of events countrywide.

Crufts postponement and re-scheduling on the May Bank Holiday weekend will cause more consternation for many Flyball Teams. The PODS for example are committed to perform at the London Tattoo but have two teams qualified for Crufts. It will be the first year we'll be half hoping they won't get through to the semi-finals!

Thank you to everyone who sent items for the Flyball Record, a total of ten, more than I have ever received before. One funny co-incidence. I thought, something different would be a doggy wordsearch and was busy trying to work one out on my computer when Neil (Hubby) retrieving Emails on his Lap-Top received a BFA Wordsearch and other puzzles from Sally Hopkins (Hindlip Flyers). Needless to say I've published hers, it was much better than mine. I'll keep the other puzzles for future use, Thanks Sally.

It was very disappointing when the A.G.M. was postponed, especially for those members who have won awards. I would like to offer my **CONGRATULATIONS** to all the winners. Let's hope we can all get together soon, after all we need to say Thank you to our Committee and Officers, who have worked so hard for us over the last year and have to make all the difficult decisions on our behalf.

**Please keep your
Contributions coming in.**

JEAN (Editor)

THE CHAIRMANS SLOT

All we need now is a plague of locusts. First the rain and flooding then the cold and snow. More rain and waterlogged fields and now the 'Foot & Mouth' crisis. However, the bigger picture is more important, there are people losing their livelihood. This puts a few weekends of missed Flyballing into perspective, at least we can continue after it is all over.

The crisis of 1967 lasted for eight months. Before the UK can regain disease free status there has to be a three-month period of no reported outbreaks, so no one knows when we shall be able to continue playing Flyball on a regular basis. Those tournaments going ahead must have a decontamination process and we must take as many steps as is practical to reduce the spread of infection. Even then, only after consultation with local government authorities and much soul searching.

The Annual General Meeting will be held as soon as it is practical to do so but with the current situation it is just not possible to set a firm date. Think on the bright side, with all the money we are all saving, not attending shows etc., perhaps there will be a few new Mercedes Vans about when we get going again.

The B.F.A. will do it's best to update our membership as the situation changes, but word of mouth is still the method of communication at present. Keep checking the Web Site for the latest information about Tournaments. If a Show is cancelled or postponed due to the 'Foot & Mouth' the organisers will inform you as soon as possible.

We, the Committee, thank the membership for all your help and support over the last year. It has been a very good year for Flyball, let's hope it continues after this crisis and we carry on growing at the pace of last year. We must be patient, it can only get better.

ROY HISCOCK (Chairman)

THE PODS FLYBALL TEAM

Presents

THE FIRST ROUND

OF THE

B.F.A. SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP

9TH & 10TH JUNE 2001

at

DAVENTRY NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Closing Date 18th May 2001

Open Team Tournament Fun Classes

Starters

Mixed Breeds

Refreshments

Camping available

Licensed Bar

For Schedules or information contact Delia Roberts

Tel. 01604 648085

Email – PeterPODS@aol.com

www.flyball.org.uk

your committee news

Main points arising from the Committee Meeting held on 11th March 2001

TRAINING and EDUCATION

An updated version of the 'Getting Started Package' was presented to the meeting and further amendments and improvements were discussed and Roy Hiscock has agreed to action the changes. It sounds as if, after many hours of thought and work, it's getting there.

Three additional sets of measuring hoops are on order. It will be nice to know the BFA will have this equipment available for Head Judges to borrow.

SHOWS

The Implications of 'Foot and Mouth' have caused Tournament cancellations and in this context it was agreed that the Committee would consider, on its merits, a request for a contribution towards non-recoverable expenses from any Organiser who had to cancel a Sanctioned Show for reasons outside his/her control.

Our Show Secretary, Alison Booth has her work cut out at the moment, with the ever-changing Flyball Show Diary. Each Tournament needs to be considered, in the light of the changing 'Foot and Mouth' situation, nearer its date. Alison will maintain contact with Organisers and advise accordingly.

A Revised Version of the C.3 Form (Application for a sanctioned Tournament) was approved and will be brought into use as soon as possible.

HEAD JUDGES

Roy Hiscock's application to become a Head Judge was considered by the Committee (whilst he was out of the room), I bet you'd have loved to be a fly on the wall, Roy! It was approved. ***Congratulations*** Roy, you'll now be getting big headaches instead of small ones.

The need to provide more training opportunities for Head Judges and encourage more applications was discussed. They will try to organise a Judges Seminar in the North, probably linked to an event and a further Seminar at Thetford later in the year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A Business Plan for the five year period from 2001 was discussed ready for presentation at the A.G.M.

The possibility of opening up a separate account into which monies could be transferred, to build a reserve fund for a Set of Lights, to be investigated.

SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2001

The Summer Championship format for 2001 will ideally run over ***FIVE TOURNAMENTS*** (subject to the limitations of the ‘Foot & Mouth’ restrictions) with the ***BEST OF FOUR RESULTS*** qualifying for a final position. Points allocation would be similar to last year and the rules for deciding places in the event of a tie on points would be simplified.

FLYBALL BOXES

Following the use of a flap on a box at the Slough Tournament, it was re-emphasised that no item considered to be a training aid is allowed in competition and that Boxes must conform to designated dimensions. Checks on boxes should be carried out prior to racing whenever time permits.

WEBSITE

The Show Secretary can now enter the Tournament details directly onto the Website, ensuring that members are given as much notice as possible of forthcoming events.

Our thanks once again to Nigel Bouckley, our Web Master, for producing the new and improved Website.

BFA MEMBERS AWARD & MOST IMPROVED TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD.

Comments on the format for nominations appear on the AGM Agenda and should invoke discussion on the future of these awards. However, two rounds of voting have been completed, the results are as follows:-

MOST IMPROVED TEAM OF THE YEAR
2000

NUNEATON FLYERS

BFA MEMBERS AWARD

BOBBY
(Mad Mutts)

Claire Gristwood

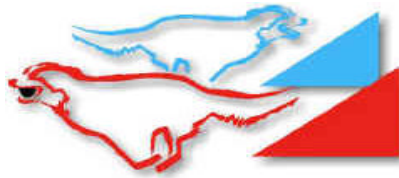
CONGRATULATIONS

ADDENDUM COVERING PERIOD 15th – 18th MARCH 2001

In the week following the Committee Meeting it became obvious that the ‘Foot & Mouth’ outbreak was escalating rapidly and its effect on the timing of the AGM became a matter for urgent consideration by the Committee. Conflicting messages from the Government coupled with concerns expressed by our membership about non-essential journeys from, through and to infected areas convinced the Committee that, regrettably, postponement was the only sensible option. As a result of e-mail exchanges this was unanimously agreed and Notice was therefore sent to all Team Captains, Head Judges and Officers of the BFA in a letter dated 18th March. This Notice was also put on the Website.

The situation will be closely monitored and a new date fixed when it is wise to do so. In the meantime the Committee will continue to administer the business of the BFA on a day-to-day basis.





British Flyball Association

A few notes from the Acting Secretary/Membership Secretary

Membership Renewals

A big thank you to all members who sent in their 1st April renewals early as this has eased the administrative load considerably.

A gentle reminder to those who may have overlooked their renewal that, after the end of April, it will cost them an extra £2.50 to re-join.

Failure to include this joining/re-joining fee is now the single most frequent cause of delay in the processing of new and renewal membership applications

Primary Team Renewals

Another polite reminder to Primary Team Captains that failure to pay the £2.00 renewal fee may result in their not being sent Show Schedules from May onwards.

New Team Applications

Please note that the Fee for registering a NEW Primary Team Name goes up from 1st April 2001 to £10.00.

BFA PO Box

The automatic redirection of Mail by the Post Office from the old to the new PO Box ceases on 29th April 2001 and any items sent to the previous address after that date will, we understand, be opened and returned to the Sender. (Always assuming this information is available).

Any member in the process of compiling an Application for a Height Card is requested to alter the pre-printed address on the Form ready to send it to **PO Box 109, Petersfield, GU32 1XZ**, when it is completed.

This request also applies to any old BFA documents still in hand anywhere, including the appendices to the Rule Book, (e.g. Membership Application Forms) and all Teams are asked to either amend or destroy as necessary. All Forms available from the Website were up-dated when the change took place in January 2001.

Thank you all for your co-operation.

Graham Nye

A LETTER OF THANKS FROM TUG

It came as no surprise to my owner that I was named Flyball Dog of the Year 2000.

I was not surprised because when we went to Thetford, Bobby, the Jack Russell who runs with the B.F.A. Statistics Officer's Team took me aside and told me he had sneaked a look at the computer and he told me I had won. (I hope I'm not getting Bobby in trouble for letting the 'cat' out of the bag). Sorry about using the "three letter word" but I will make it up to you later.

First, thanks go to all the dogs that have taken part in the events during the year. Thanks also go to my own team members, who have trained and run with me, because we must remember that this is a team sport and without the rest of your team you are nothing. (*And to their owners*).

My thanks go to the dogs in the other teams, without which there would be no competitions. I have yet to meet an opponent that has not been a sporting adversary. (*And their owners*).

I have been lucky enough to meet a variety of dogs in the multi-cultural society in which we live and race. I think they must be descendants of dogs that have been 'persecuted' or 'hounded' from their original homes. (*I told you I would make up for that three letter word*).

For example, I've met German Shepherds, French Poodles, Spanish Water Dogs, Scottish Terriers, Welsh Corgies, Irish Setters and so on. I even know of some Yorkshire Terriers living in Lancashire. Presumably their ancestors were captured during the Wars of the Roses and no one would pay the ransom to have them back. (*Well would you?*)

While on the subject of our doggie friends from other lands, I would like to ask our canine mates in the PODS teams to thank their owners for following the example set by the Northern Bytes team by putting on a show in Scotland.

When our owners took to Selkirk last year we had a wonderful time and met a large number of dogs and their humans. We were given a great welcome and lots of interest for Flyball was created in the area.

We met the members and their owners from the Lochaber Flyers Flyball Team. They traveled down from the Fort William area of the Highlands, which was as far to travel south as it was for us to travel north. They are a wonderful group of dogs and owners, even though they bark with an unusual accent. It will be nice if we meet again in Glasgow.

I have digressed from my thanks and must not forget to thank all the humans that organise and keep records of all the events. Without the hard work put in by these two legged friends we could not enjoy our sport.

TUG (and RON EDGE, Northern Bytes)



JUDGES REPORT – MARKET HARBOROUGH – 21st January 2001

The winter league has once again started for 2001 at the above location in rather snowy conditions, but this indoor venue is excellent. I was approached back in October 2000 to act as Head Judge for this event by the organisers (PODS) to which I readily agreed.

I was amazed when Peter rang me the week before to say that this limited event of thirty teams had been oversubscribed by more than ten teams. It was encouraging to see a number of new teams appearing, most of which competed in the lower divisions. It just goes to show that Flyball, this modern dog sport is becoming very popular.

I chose to Judge Divisions Five and Six expecting that the more novice dogs would create more problems and there being a need to exercise careful judgement tempered with discretion, and leave the higher divisions to the Provisional Judges in the hope that they got an easier ride.

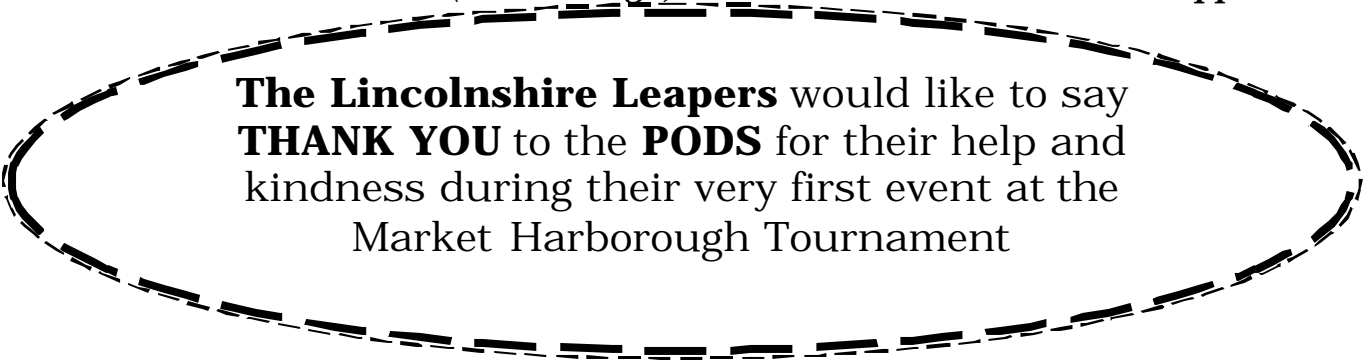
As it turned out, I believe there were only two occasions when I was called upon to make judgements against the normal run of play. One being in Division Six, when a novice team ran at the wrong jump height in their last race and won the first three heats to give them the race. Having previously lost the three in the preceding three races, thinking they suddenly had a change of fortune, their hopes were quickly dashed when this was brought to my attention and the races were consequently handed to the opposing team. A learning curve perhaps, this team will have learnt from the experience, but it should also go as a word of warning to the line judges/scribes not to be complacent and to make sure when they are given the four dogs which are to race, that they check to see if a height dog is included amongst them and that the jump heights are set correctly prior to racing.

The only other problem I encountered was in Division Five when two teams suffered an identical problem in that one dog in each team had to be re-run and kept missing out on the first jump back from the box. After several attempts each, to complete the race without result, and the time now running into minutes rather than seconds, I allowed a runner from each team to guide the dog over the first jump. Then they ran off against each other on the light sequence in order to complete this heat and get an eventual winner. Both dogs were then substituted and the racing carried on.

Both Divisions competed sportingly as far as I could see. I recall giving some friendly advice to some novice handlers content to 'hang' their dogs whilst waiting to run in the line-ups, but I believe this was due to over-enthusiasm rather than doing this intentionally.

Both Divisions had outright winners who never lost a heat all day. Division Six being the Bristol Ballistics, and Division Five being the Bassett Allsorts. Well Done to everyone, hope to see you all at future events and the usual thanks to the PODS for yet another well run event.

HOWARD CAMPBELL (*Head Judge*) and now a Greetland Grasshopper



The Lincolnshire Leapers would like to say
THANK YOU to the **PODS** for their help and
kindness during their very first event at the
Market Harborough Tournament

MARKET HARBOROUGH RESULTS - 21st January 2001

DIVISION ONE Judge - Anne Johnson

1st	PODS	18.20
2nd	Barkshire Bandits	18.40
3rd	Melton Rovers	18.27
4th	Wakefield Tykes	19.03
5th	Mad Mutts	18.67

DIVISION TWO Judge - Mo Hiscock

1st	Barkshire Bullets	19.52
2nd	Buccaneers	19.41
3rd	Wolf Pack	20.13
4th	Melton Foxes	20.57
5th	PODlets	20.15

DIVISION THREE Judge - Roy Hiscock

1st	Bristol Ball-istics	19.62
2nd	Northern Bytes	19.79
3rd	Blackpool Super Nova	20.92
4th	Mega Bytes	21.54
5th	Phoenix Flashbacks	NFC

DIVISION FOUR Judge - Anne Johnson

1st	Rugby Rapids	21.28
2nd	Hindlip Flyers	21.11
3rd	Sheffield Speeders	21.48
4th	W'boro Red Wellies	21.20
5th	Wizzers of Ouse	21.55

DIVISION FIVE Judge - Howard Campbell

1st	Bassett Allsorts	21.23
2nd	Wakefield Terror Tykes	21.23
3rd	Fylde Coasters	22.86
4th	Brat Pack	23.87
5th	Knights	22.45

DIVISION SIX - Judge Howard Campbell

1st	Bristol Ball-istic Missiles	21.69
2nd	Border Patrol (UK)	23.20
3rd	Yorkshire Bouncers	26.68
4th	Phoenix Phantoms	22.54
5th	Lincolnshire Leapers	22.47

SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE RESULTS - 18th February 2001

DIVISION ONE Judge - Wayne O'Rourke

1st	PODS	18.00
2nd	Melton Rovers	18.14
3rd	Barkshire Bandits	18.30
4th	Mad Mutts	18.72
5th	Barkshire Bullets	19.52
6th	Buccaneers	19.23

DIVISION TWO Judge - Roy Hiscock

1st	Bristol Ball-istics	19.18
2nd	PODlets	19.66
3rd	Bassett Hotdogs	20.02
4th	Nuneaton Flyers	19.80
5th	Wolf Pack	20.69

DIVISION THREE Judge - Iain Lewis

1st	Test Valley Raiders	19.73
2nd	Melton Foxes	19.59
3rd	Whinchats	20.4
4th	Hindlip Flyers	20.78
5th	Nuneaton Flyer Bees	21.57

DIVISION FOUR Judge - Penny Chai

1st	Wacky Racers	20.32
2nd	Running 4 Mutts	20.37
3rd	Maple Leafs	20.68
4th	Bassett Allsorts	21.63
5th	Scallywaggers	22.37

DIVISION FIVE Judge - Sam Bawden

1st	Test Valley Rogues	21.25
2nd	Stonechats	21.69
3rd	Bristol Ball-istic Missiles	21.62
4th	Chatterboxes	23.26
5th	The Knights	Withdrew

DIVISION SIX Judge - Peter Roberts

1st	Bristol Ball-istic Scuds	25.24
2nd	PODlers	21.68
3rd	Melton B's	22.90
4th	Nuneaton Cyclones	27.58
5th	Extra Buccs	22.29

THE HISTORY of THE BARKSHIRE BANDITS & THEIR FIRST INDOOR TOURNAMENT

The Barkshire Bandits were formed in 1996 and they made their debut on the 5th October that year at a show held at Catterston Stud near Whitchurch in Hampshire.

They didn't finish in the rosettes and had a best time of **25.45 seconds**. The following year they were competing again. From a time of **24 seconds** in the first event of the season they broke their personal best, six times, to finish on a high with a competition win at the Essex County Show in a record time of **19.52 seconds**.

The second team was added during the year, The Barkshire Bullets. They first ran at Knebworth in May with a best time of **23.80 seconds** – four competitions later they won their division and finished the season with a personal best of **21.80 seconds**.

1999 proved to be a good year for both teams. The Bandits once again broke their personal best, going sub **19 seconds** for the first time and ended with a best time of **18.67 seconds**. This was just the icing on the cake, as the Bandits won the B.F.A. Team of the Year title. On top of that, the Bandits' five dogs finished in the top six '*Bitch of the Year*' and '*Collie of the Year*' and came second in '*Cross Breed of the Year*' titles.

The teams held their very first Flyball Tournament last year at Moss End and we held a raffle which raised £250 for the Wokingham Dog Rescue where my dog Ellie came from. Apart from Competitions the teams carry out demonstrations at shows and fetes and were one of the main attractions at the RSPCA MILLBROOK OPEN DAY. We have been invited back again this year.

The new millennium started as the old one finished for both teams. New dogs have been added to strengthen the two squads and the teams have benefited by going even faster.

The Bandits have reduced their best time to **17.91 seconds**. The Bullets weren't to be outdone and their previous best time of **21 seconds** was destroyed when they went sub **20 seconds** for the first time. The following week it was shattered again at MOSS END SHOW by a further half a second and finished the season with a personal best time of **19.03 seconds**.

MONTEM SPORTS CENTRE TOURNAMENT – This was the Barkshire Bandits very first Indoor Sanctioned Tournament and I think it was a great success.

It was nice to have found a large indoor venue, if not a bit expensive, to host this event. There was a very happy atmosphere and the racing was very close and enjoyable.

With the added space available to us we were able to run a singles lane which was very well supported and raised £152 to make us just break even on the cost of the day. A big thank you to all who entered with some very fast times from the Collies, Multibreeds and not forgetting the Minis. A big thanks to Julie and Gail for running the singles all day for me.

The fastest Collie of the day was **Darwin** owned by Steve James with a fastest time of **4.28 seconds** over 12" jumps. We had to have a 'sudden death' run off for 1st & 2nd place as **Rogan** owned by Jean Meeking ran exactly the same times as Darwin in all three legs, which was truly amazing, in the run off Rogan lost by one hundredth of a second. The 3rd place went to Sally Hopkins with **Jet** with a time of **4.37 seconds**.

The multi Breed was keenly contested with my little rescue dog, **Ellie**, winning with a time of **4.59 seconds** over 10" jumps. The 2nd & 3rd place had a joint fastest time of **4.94 seconds** and had to be split by one hundredth of a second on their second best time. 2nd place went to Joy Hopkins with **Nelly** and 3rd place went to Tim Marsh with Muffin.

The Minis proved to be very interesting as well with Anna Braley and **Ginny** winning with a fine time of **4.82 seconds** over 7" jumps. Alison O'Rourke with **Ted** wasn't far behind with a best time of **4.85 seconds**. Andy Bawden with **Ruff Stuff** came third with a time of **5.22 seconds**.

Thank you to all the thirty teams who entered and made this show a success. I can't tell you I had a few nightmares earlier on when I hardly had any entries! What is it about Flyballers who think it's easier to send in their entries so near to the closing date. As the show organiser it was a big concern to me as I had to pay £900 in advance to the Sports Centre.

I would like to say another thank you to Peter & Delia Roberts, (PODS), for bringing all the equipment, rubber etc. and for their help in setting up the night before.

I would also like to mention the rest of the Barkshire Bandits Flyball teams, who worked very hard all day, manning the lights, scribing, box judging and managing the paperwork to make this show run smoothly. My thanks go to each and every one of you for your help and loyalty over the years we have been together.

We all look forward to competing and meeting up with all you friendly Flyballers at the next Tournament.

PENNY CHARLTON (Captain – Barkshire Bandits)

B.F.A. WORDSEARCH

There are 33 words, used in current BFA teams, hidden in this grid reading either forward, backwards, up, down or diagonally but always in a straight line. When you cross off these words on the grid you will be left with 7 unused letters that spell something that connects all these words. **What is it?**

DOG	BORDER
FUN	MELTON
BAD	FLYING
FOR	ROVERS
RED	GREEN
BALL	MUTTS
FOUR	FLYDE
PACK	NOVAS
PODS	STARS
BRAT	TEST
OUSE	WOLF

E	G	N	I	P	M	U	J	M	N	F	L	S
R	R	E	D	R	O	B	U	O	U	S	E	G
I	E	I	N	U	F	T	V	D	E	R	N	A
H	E	N	H	S	T	A	H	C	N	I	H	W
S	N	O	E	S	S	D	O	P	Y	R	F	Y
K	T	R	W	B	K	M	E	L	T	O	N	L
R	S	T	O	U	A	R	F	F	U	V	K	L
A	E	H	L	L	A	B	O	R	O	E	C	A
B	T	E	F	L	Y	D	E	Y	D	R	A	C
T	A	R	B	E	D	A	B	S	O	S	P	S
Y	B	N	A	T	L	S	T	H	G	I	N	K
S	R	A	T	S	R	E	G	N	I	R	P	S
L	S	R	E	P	P	O	H	S	S	A	R	G

JUMPING
BULLETS
KNIGHTS
NORTHERN
RENEBABES
WHINCHATS
BARKSHIRE
SPRINGERS
YORKSHIRE
SCALLYWAGS
GRASSHOPPERS

THANK YOU to SALLY HOPKINS (Hindlip Flyers)

CASSIE'S STORY (Part Two)

Hi, I'm Cassie. My new owners tell me they started to write about me in the February issue of the Flyball Record. They told me that it's not good for any dog to have five different homes before they are three years old and that this new home would be my last and final home. Whatever problems I had they would sort out or learn to live with them. I didn't understand the last bit, what problems? I am a dominant, confident and very active Border Collie, but sweet with it, that's normal isn't it?

Chica and Rogan, the other collies, are already my mates, especially Rogan, we play all the time and we go everywhere together. The two old ladies, Buttons and Freebie, well, they're just there, they don't bother me and I don't bother them, but Raffles, the big eight stone G.S.D., is a different matter. He's the leader of the dogs (or so he thinks). He intimidates them and they all try very hard not to upset him. I soon got him weighed up, when he trod on my foot I let rip and told him off in no uncertain terms, I wasn't scared of him. Unfortunately my new Mum won't tolerate quarrels and she only has to yell "get down" in that very definite way humans have and we all hit the deck, even the dogs that aren't arguing. I tried it again a few days later when we were all waiting for our breakfast. I couldn't work it out why Raffles was one side of the food tub and the other four dogs were the other side whilst my new Mum dished up. It didn't make sense, as we couldn't all get near the tub, so I changed sides and stood underneath Raffles to watch. He didn't like that so he moaned at me, that did it, I tore him off a strip. I don't bite but I make a lot of noise and grab his fur, Raffles just didn't know how to react, he tried to pin me down like he does to the others but I wasn't having it and I really think I was winning 'cos he started to back off and then that human voice yelled "get down" and everyone sunk into the carpet, including me and I was promptly moved to the other side of the tub with the others. Still, I think I've proved my point, when we're out chasing balls now Raffles avoids me, but still chases the others. Mind you I have been told that I must learn to be more tolerant and understanding, Raffles was a 're-home' too (and apparently I could never be as badly behaved as him if I tried, it took months and months to sort some of his problems out). Needless to say I now stand with the others on the opposite side of the tub and to cap it all I've been relegated to fifth place in the feeding chain. I had been given my food first (being the newcomer) but I've showed my true colours and my new Mum feeds all us dogs in order of dominance (in other words the wimps get their food first), so it's Freebie, Buttons, Chica, Rogan, then me, but Ha Ha, Raffles is still last.

This being re-homed is a continuous learning curve. It was bad enough learning to go through that noisy Flap in the door, I could not understand how all those dogs disappeared through the door and the noise, ugh! Still, after the first day in my new home I wasn't allowed to go in or out unless I went through that Flap. At first it was lifted up for me, then gradually I was made to push it. It only took me five days before I had it sussed, mind you it's a bit scary when you dash through it and there's another dog coming the other way, especially if it's Raffles!

My next lesson was lead walking with the others. There are some smashing big fields near here that lead to the woods but there is a seven minute walk across a busy road to get there. We are paired off on double leads and the first new words I had to get used to was "get in line". This meant Raffles & Rogan stay on the left of Mum, Freebie & Buttons on the right and I was put with Chica and we walk in front. The reasoning behind this was that the paths aren't wide enough to take six dogs and a human in a row so two of us have to go in front. I thought this was a brilliant idea, I conjured up thoughts of towing everyone along and going exactly where I wanted to, but, it was not to be. I was paired off with Chica for one very good reason, she's a 'Miss Goody Two Shoes' and obeys my new Mum explicitly and when Mum says "walk" it means go straight at a sedentary pace and because I was connected to her as well as guided from behind it's difficult to do anything else. I used to try and attack the lorries &

cars that passed close by (things like that excite me) but I soon realised it was a non starter and none of the others were interested in this particular sport, they just wanted to get up to the fields, so I've given that up now. I've also learnt to wait patiently before crossing the road, that actually wasn't too difficult, somewhere in my past I must have been taught a similar exercise.

Visiting my new Mum's patients in their homes is brilliant. They all treat Rogan, Chica and myself like 'royalty', and are always so pleased to see us and make such a fuss of us and we get lovely treats. I do get told very, very often not to jump up, but how on earth can you greet a human properly without jumping up them to give them a lick. Anyway Rogan is worse than me he's clumsy with it, but they've known him since he was a tiny puppy so he gets away with it, he actually jumps on their laps sometimes! Chica of course is 'Miss Perfect', she dashes in just like us but then sits quietly with her head on their laps quietly lapping up all that fuss. Me and Rogan we like exploring all the different smells etc. but at one house there is a dog called Fluffy and a cat called Tigger. Fluffy gets a bit jealous when we go in but although she sometimes growls at Rogan (well he will climb all over Claire, the patient) she and I get on quite well. My new Mum was a bit worried about me meeting Tigger, but to be honest he doesn't bother me either, perhaps it would be different if he ran! Claire also has three ducks in the garden and although Chica is fascinated by them, Rogan and I find them very boring.

After three weeks in my new home we all went away for Christmas to the son of the family who has a house not two hundred yards from the sea-front at Southsea. It was brilliant, although my new Mum was not too keen on us going in the sea too often, I think this was mainly because she always ended up as wet as we did and then she had six dogs to dry off when she got back to the house. Unfortunately it wasn't easy for Rogan and myself to re-arrange the beach as it was shingle not sand and my new mum was afraid we might damage our feet (especially clumsy Rogan), so we usually ended up on the Common. It was huge with so much space to run around on. If we walked the other way we could go to a Park with a big lake in it filled with hundreds of ducks and swans, this was Freebie's favourite place, she's into birds!

At the house we were staying in there was a big Games Room, the size of a double garage. In this room was a green table that everyone kept poking coloured balls around with a stick, I found this very strange, they weren't tennis balls, but when they fell into the string pockets I got very excited and chased round to see if I could get them, tripping up the humans occasionally, well, they got in the way and they weren't very steady on their feet anyway. No-one seemed to mind, I think the 'coloured water' they were drinking had a lot to do with it! It wasn't much fun when the humans started throwing knives at the wall (I think they were trying to hit a board, but I'm not sure as it didn't happen very often), we were made to lie down on the other side of the room. It was great when the three grandchildren came, I was always ready to play games with them, especially football and there was lots more cuddles and kisses, I love children.

After the Christmas and New year celebrations I had my first Flyball Training session. It had to be indoors because the field was waterlogged, us dogs don't mind the mud but the humans worry about slipping about, understandable really they only have two legs, very unstable!

I must admit the training didn't exactly go smoothly all of the time, you see I get very, very excited, in fact quite fanatical and my worst traits appear. I cannot be doing with other dogs barking (although I bark myself) it winds me up and my concentration goes haywire if another dog gets in my way and I just have to dominate them and put them in their place. This means my new Dad (he's going to handle me) has to keep me strictly under control. ***I feel another learning curve coming up – I'll tell you all about it next time!***

REGARDING “CASSIE’S STORY”

As I have known Cassie for the last eight months I was pleased to read that she has settled in so well into her new home, and is now happy and content. However, I was disconcerted to read the inaccuracies and the intonation held regarding her transformation and the circumstances leading to her re-homing.

Firstly Cassie’s fourth owner took her on as a second Flyball dog as she already had a dog running successfully, she was aware of Cassie’s problems, which included medical issues requiring some expensive Vets fees. This person does not work full time but does have a young family and she works part time in the family business. The implication that Cassie was caged for long periods is incorrect and both dogs were exercised frequently, with Cassie only being caged when the baby was “at large”, or the owner was out of the house.

I have experienced some of Cassie’s now none existent problems, such as running off, first hand, where she has disappeared at a rate of knots at the sound of children playing in the distance, and my own Collie has been the recipient of her animosity on more than one occasion.

This owner was competing prior to taking on Cassie and still is with her first dog, she has not disappeared from training or Flyball as the article stated. I feel that anyone in accepting that their household situation is causing the dog problems and actively seeks a better suited home is doing the right thing, as differing home circumstances suit different dogs.

The impression held within the article has caused distress to people undeservedly and I felt I had to try to correct this. I hope anyone writing any articles such as this will in future check the facts before printing and I hope Cassie continues to give her new owners pleasure and success in her new team – I will watch with eager anticipation.

CHRIS THOMPSTONE

MY REPLY

Thank you for your letter which has been copied exactly as sent. As the new owner and writer of Cassie’s Story, I apologise most sincerely for any distress caused to the previous owner. I collected Cassie from a Lay-by, delivered by an intermediary and had no previous knowledge or contact with the former owner and I did not pursue this to save embarrassment to everyone concerned. I wrote only what I was told and understood to be Cassie’s previous history.

If we happen to be at the same Flyball event sometime, it would be very nice to meet both, Chris & the previous owner, to compare notes. It can only be good for Cassie.

JEAN MEEKING

A wonderful Quote sent in by Graham Nye

“THERE IS NO ‘I’ IN TEAM”

OUR NEW TEAM

We're the fledgling Flying Colours – the canine half at least,
We dither and we bark with joy as eyes on that ball we feast.
Mind you when **QUINN** lines up we hold our breath (pause) will she or won't she go?
Now **BRAMBLE**, do your best for Mum and **JACK** boy, go boy go!
Wow, listen to **SPUD** and hear him scream, the vocal star of our new team.

Next come the big ones – not quite so new, line up gang it's down to you.
With **CRACKER** leading, watch her go, **BILLY** follows and he ain't slow.
PENNY's waiting, she looks so cool – don't look and blink, watch her and drool.
Last but not least is our solitary merle, with changeovers like that **POPPY**'s our girl.
Yep, our gang is **GREAT** we all feel good and enjoy our sport as good dogs should.

CRACKER (age five)

FAMOUS DOG EXPRESSIONS

The first one is an example

- 1 **DED** *Dog Eat Dog*
- 2 **DITM** _____
- 3 **MDAE** _____
- 4 **TQBFJOTLD** _____
- 5 **LSDL** _____
- 6 **ITDH** _____
- 7 **GTTD** _____
- 8 **DT** _____
- 9 **IADL** _____
- 10 **TTWTD** _____
- 11 **TLITODY** _____
- 12 **YCTAODNT** _____
- 13 **RCAD** _____
- 14 **ASDS** _____
- 15 **HBIWTHB** _____



WHERE HAS THE LAST YEAR GONE?

Twelve months ago I confess to knowing nothing about Flyball apart from the fact that it existed.

Ten months ago I was at Crufts which is the annual pilgrimage for many Obedience enthusiasts like myself. I watched a display in the Special Events Ring which included some Flyball and was immediately drawn into the idea and atmosphere. However I did nothing about it except mentioning to a friend that I wouldn't mind having a go at some point.

Nine months ago the said friend heard of a four week taster course being run by The Northern Bytes (at the time that meant nothing to me)

Eight months ago we did the course. Seven months ago we carried on with club sessions.

Six months ago we entered our first starter competition.

Five months ago we were looking forward to our next, which turned out even better but also hard work as by now we had been "encouraged" by the gang to become involved whether racing or not.

September brought a third competition which even the rain couldn't dampen.

By now there had evolved a group wishing to continue, but the dark nights and training venue problems reduced us to winter training on a Sunday morning when possible. In true Mummy bird tradition, Doreen, plus others felt we were ready to progress and after much consultation it was agreed we would train with our flyball birth family, The Northern Bytes, but self manage as regards the competitions.

Which brings me full circle to say we are now registered as members of The Flying Colours and are raring to go. Because all of our new group have other commitments, work, children etc. etc., we will be unable to campaign extensively but we will do our best and know we will enjoy ourselves.

It would be unfair to name individuals for fear of missing someone out, but you know who you are, so **THANK YOU.**

SUE BLYTH & cracker (FLYING COLOURS)

P.S. Of course it helps when you have an exuberant collie who loves to run and with a preference for tennis balls. (*This story was written in January 2001*)

HOME MADE DOG BISCUITS

1lb Wholemeal Flour

1 Oxo Cube

Pinch of Salt

1 Tablespoon Grated Cheese

2 ½ ounces Lard or Dripping

Rub fat into flour, add crumbled Oxo Cube.

Add salt & grated cheese. Mix with milk into stiff dough.

Roll out into ¼ inch thickness.

Cut into shapes and put onto a floured sheet.

Bake in a moderate oven for 45 minutes.

STORE IN AN AIRTIGHT TIN

Current Seed Times (Open) - as at 19/3/2001

SEED	TEAM	TRN	SEED TIME
1	PODS	015	18.00
2	Melton Rovers	035	18.14
3	Barkshire Bandits	017	18.30
4	Mad Mutts	054	18.67
5	Wakefield Tykes	046	19.03
6	Bristol Ball-istics	018	19.18
7	Buccaneers	025	19.23
8	Barkshire Bullets	017c	19.52
9	Melton Foxes	035b	19.59
10	PODlets	015a	19.66
11	Test Valley Raiders	045	19.73
12	Northern Bytes	027	19.79
13	Nuneaton Flyers	051	19.18
14	Bassett Hotdogs	011b	20.02
15	Wolf Pack	050	20.13
16	Wacky Racers	044	20.32
17	Running 4 Mutts	054a	20.37
18	Whinchats	030	20.44
19	Maple Leafs	049	20.68
20	Hindlip Flyers	068	20.78
21	Blackpool Super Novas	063	20.92
22	W'boro Red Wellies	067	21.20
23	Wakefield Terrortykes	046a	21.23

SEED	TEAM	TRN	SEED TIME
24	Test Valley Rogues	045a	21.25
25	Rugby Rapids	032a	21.28
26	Bassett Allsorts	011	21.28
27	Sheffield Speeders	058	21.48
28	Mega Bytes	027a	21.54
29	Wizzers of Ouse	065a	21.55
30	Nuneaton Flyer Bees	051a	21.57
31	Bristol Ball-istic Missiles	018b	21.62
32	PODlers	015b	21.68
33	Stonechats	030a	21.69
34	Extrabuccs	025a	22.29
35	Scallywags	059a	22.37
36	The Knights	036	22.45
37	Lincolnshire Leapers	062	22.47
38	Phoenix Phantoms	056b	22.54
39	Fylde Coasters	038	22.86
40	Melton B's	035a	22.90
41	Border Patrol (UK)	023	23.20
42	Chatterboxes	030c	23.26
43	Brat Pack	050a	23.87
44	Bristol Ball-istic Scuds	018c	25.24
45	Yorkshire Bouncers	052	26.68
46	Nuneaton Cyclone	051b	27.58

THE NUNEATON FLYERS

(Voted Most Improved Team for the year 2000)

WILL BE HOSTING

THE SECOND ROUND

OF THE

B . F . A . SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP

AT

MILL ON THE SOAR, SHARNFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE

30TH JUNE & 1ST JULY 2001

SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT (Unlimited)

If time allows Fun Classes, Starters & Pairs

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Tel. 01827 707293 Email – s.harrison6@ntlworld.com

Tel. 01827 707293 Email. s.harrison6@ntlworld.com

HALLO - I'M FERN

Hi ya, I'm a Border Collie born in September 1994 on a working farm in Huddersfield, my Mum lived here, but dad came from the Lake District. I was taken by my owners Howard and Jackie to a house in Halifax where I was introduced to two other collies; Cass who was six years old and Jess who was five. I do not recall being a problem to them apart from doing the things all collies do when we are young, like pee on the carpet and help strip the wallpaper from the walls, dig holes in the garden etc. you could say I settled in more or less straight away.

In my early days Jackie would take me to this place which had shiny wooden floor and make me do things like 'sit', 'stand', 'lie down' and 'heel'. There were other dogs there too, but some were much larger than me and I used to hide under the chairs around the side of the hall when they came near. I think I prefer my own company.

As I got to just over a year old, Jackie thought I was bored with all that stuff, just sitting around, walk here, walk there, sit and down stays, they were that long sometimes I used to nod off. Jackie was right I was bored to the extent that I used to growl and snap at some of the other dogs and so Jackie was asked to take me out of the class as I was a disruption to the others.

I recall Jackie giving me that 'look' and saying "Well Fern, what are we going to do with you now?" Within a week we were off to this other Dog Club at Wakefield, it seemed like miles away, but Jackie said I needed stimulation, so she thought I should try what you humans call 'Agility'. I was taught to leap over these jumps, go up and down this 'A' shaped thing, then onto something they called a 'Dog Walk' (not my idea of a dog walk), weave through some poles in the ground and disappear into this dark tunnel. Jackie said it was exactly what I needed to get rid of my pent up energy, my thoughts were different, give me sheep anyday. I used to get that excited running round those jumps and things and of course I barked all the time and couldn't hear Jackie shout "No Fern, this way" so naturally I took my own course (well it's more fun that way, isn't it?) The more Jackie shouted the more I got wound up, I was doing it wasn't I? I couldn't stop myself from getting to fever pitch, it was "over here, over there, through here, up this, down that and as for the wonky thing called a see-saw – well, all I got was "No, no, no, what about the contacts?" I could never get my head round that, contacts. what contacts?

So it was back to "What are we going to do now Fern?" getting that same look from Jackie. Then, in April 1997 Jackie heard about a Flyball Training weekend at Wakefield Dog Club. I took one look and thought, yeah I can do this, go over four jumps, get a ball out of this box thing and then come back to Jackie. Easy peasy, at the end of the Training Weekend I came fifth and got a Rosette and that was it, we never looked back. We joined a Flyball Team and before long we were travelling here, there and everywhere. I remember running in my first team with this 'spotty dog' who I thought had something wrong with it (like measles), and this other dog who couldn't see where it was going, 'cos it had long hair over it's eyes, this big black curly coated dog was twice the size of me. There was also a little dog they called a Poodle who wore its coat in fancy shapes and wore ribbons in it's hair, my thoughts at the time were "What on earth have we got here?" There was another Collie like me but it was slim and did all that Agility stuff, (successfully).

My first Tournament was at a place called Knebworth. It was a blazing hot day and to make matters worse there were 'big bangs' all day long, not good for sensitive dogs like myself, and to top it all, the Poodle couldn't come with us so we only had four dogs in the Team. We all had to jump at 16", boy was I tired at the end of the day and my nerves were shattered with all those bangs. Anyway, I went on

to become an established member of the Wakefield Optimists Flyball Team running a team time of about 24 seconds.

During our holidays, Howard & Jackie enjoyed Fell Walking in the Lake District. I loved running up and down those Fells with Cass & Jess and one day we set off very early to climb the 'highest mountain in England' called Scafel Pike. Howard said I wasn't at the top until I was standing on what he called the trigg point. No problem, I just leapt up on top and looked down on them. I do it all the time now, whenever I see one of those trigg things I jump up on top.

How things change. During the last two and a half years of Flyballing our Team altered its name to the Wakefield Tykes and Howard is our Box Loader (do you know he still calls us dogs to the box, as if we need telling, aren't we experienced now?) We have travelled miles to Tournaments, sleeping in motels and more recently a Trailer Tent (what a come down). Them '**Tyke**' dogs have improved enormously, there is my mate, **Jade**, the Cross Breed Bitch who screams in my ear when I'm waiting to run, the collie, **Chance**, who always tries to bite Jackie's bum, there's **Moss**, who I first ran with at Knebworth, he's still hanging in there, there's also **Smudge** and two newish dogs **Gilly** and **Jill** and sometimes the big black smooth coated working Labrador called **BJ** who thinks he's a collie!

Last year the 'Tykes' managed a fastest ever time of 18.35 seconds, amazing for us, that extra training certainly paid off. Howard keeps telling Jackie that I run at about 4.50 seconds but I think I'm quicker than that, I think Howard is a bit slow on the old stopwatch. They are very proud of me as during the year Jade and I have also won the Pairs Final three times at different Tournaments and to top it all I got Third Place in breed for Best Border Collie of the year 2000, and Fifth Best Bitch. My best soul mate Jade came Fourth, beating me by 33 points.

Its time for another change, Howard & Jackie have started their own Flyball Team called the 'Greetland Grasshoppers'. What a name, still Howard is a bit eccentric, the snag is I've got to run in his Team now, new friends to make and I'll have to show those novice dogs how to go on, but I will be supported by Jonesy, the little Sheltie and the big handsome BJ, and my best mate Jade all from the Tykes. God, I've just realised I will probably have to run down to that big black dog - Howard get me some sunglasses!

What will 2001 bring? Well, a caravan for a start, more comfort at the Flyball Tournaments. I've also got to tell you about my new sister, she's one of those 'PODS' Dogs, pretty mean bunch them, but I can equal most of them. This Collie is called Poppy, something to do with Howard being born on 11th November. It's not a bad dog, but a bit of a wimp, she's always squirming up to me when I'm around. She had to do the 'Obedience bit', but is training for Flyball now and she ain't doing bad for a young un, she could be at her first Tournament before too long.

Hey, listen up all you other dogs, I almost forgot, those of you who have seen me run will know that Jackie always carries me into the Flyball arena. I trained her to do that, good eh! All you have to do is wait until it's your turn to go on and then just 'freeze', dig in those claws and refuse to move no matter what. They will pull you, push you but stand firm, oh and the occasional choking noise helps. Before long you have to be carried in because the Judge is waiting and your owner will be told off for being late. Then there's those lights – I'm the 'start' dog and sometimes those darn lights malfunction and it seems an age before we race, so when Jackie says "Steady Fern" to me I just roll over on my back, legs in the air, paws behind my head and wait for them to be fixed. Try it it's very relaxing.

FERN (JACKIE CAMPBELL, GREETLAND GRASSHOPPERS)

P.S. Hope my leg gets better soon, flipping novice dog, not looking where it was going, but at least I get to go swimming now.

NEW MEMBERS

John & Molly Hart	Yorkshire Bouncers	Sarah Roberts	Whinchats
Roma Williams	Thor's Rovers	Jane Heaton	Flying Colours
Karen & Kevin Wilson	Thor's Rovers	Sean Hopkins	Hindlip Flyers
Alex Hayes	Thor's Rovers	D A Bayston	Wakefield Tykes
Cathy Hollywood	Thor's Rovers	Sandra Rothwell	Flying Colours
Christine & Bruce Carter	Thor's Rovers	Tom Rothwell	Flying Colours
Ian Hutchinson	The Knights	Joanne Rothwell	Flying Colours
Derek Brogden	Lincolnshire Leapers	Sharon Sampson	Springers
Elaine & Dave Parkinson	Yorkshire Bouncers	Lisa Snow	TBC
Heather & Peter Blow	Flying Colours	Tim Marsh	Test Valley Raiders
Margaret Buckley	Whiterose Wagtails	Helen Lane	Springers
Lynne Cousins	Whiterose Wagtails	Peter Vowles	Blackpool Super Nova
Libby Hartley	Whiterose Wagtails	Gillian Gardiner	Clatto Clangers
Shaun Goddard	Barkshire Bandits	Greg Gardiner	Clatto Clangers
Keith & Philip Jackson	Blackpool Super Nova	Gillian Telfer	TBC
Christopher Jackson	Blackpool Super Nova	Christine Biddulph	Bassett Allsorts
Vivien Antcliffe	Springers	Ben Naylor	Springers
Diane Besford	Springers	Christina Shaw	Springers
Mark Roberts	Border Patrol (UK)	Lillian Gray	Clatto Clangers
Su Stock	Bristol Ball-istics	Jane Walker	Clatto Clangers
Alison Moyes	Clatto Clangers	Janice Walker	Clatto Clangers

NEW TEAMS

Wellingborough Red Wellies

Modern Dog Sports

Hindlip Flyers	<i>Hindlip Harriers</i>	<i>Hindlip Hurricanes</i>	<i>Hindlip Howlers</i>
Live Wires	<i>Wired 4 action</i>	<i>Wires R-Us</i>	<i>Wire Connection</i>
Thor's Rovers	<i>Thor's Raiders</i>	<i>Thor's Warriors</i>	
Pawzitiff Pawz	<i>Pawz 4 Thought</i>		
Clatto Clangers	<i>Clatto Cruisers</i>	<i>Clatto Buddies</i>	



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THE B.F.A. DIARY 2001

Key:-

Cl.D = Closing date for entry **ST** = Sanctioned Tournament **Prs** = Pairs racing **Sgl** = Singles Racing
MB = Multi Breed **Fun** = Fun Classes **St.T** = Starter Teams **Ltd** = Limited Entries

May 5th	Glasgow University Vet College, Renfrewshire	PODS	ST. Open (Max.8 Team
May 6/7th	Knebworth Country Show, Stevenage, Herts	MODERN DOG SPORTS	ST. Open (Ltd)
May 27/28th	Hampshire Country Show, Broadlands		ST. Open (Ltd) - Fun
	Contact – Modern Dog Sports	Tel. 01730 266633	
June 3rd	Mossend Garden Centre, Bracknell, Berks.	BARKSHIRE BANDITS	ST. Oper
	Contact – Penny Charlton	Tel. 01753 620110	Cl.D – 18 th May
June 9/10th	1st Round Summer Championship , Daventry, Northants	PODS	ST. Open MB, St.T
Fun	Contact – Peter Roberts, Tel.01604 648085, Mob.0850862872		Cl.D – 18 th May
June 23/24th	Trafford Water Park, Cheshire	NORTHERN BYTES	ST. Open ME
	Contact - Doreen Smith, Tel.0161 4940787		Cl.D – 12 th June
June 23/24th	The Middlesex Show, Uxbridge		ST. Open (Ltd)
	Contact – Modern Dog Sports	Tel. 01730 266633	Fun
June 30th)	2nd Round Summer Championship , Sharnford, Leics	NUNEATON FLYERS	
July 1st)	Contact – Pamela Harrison Tel. 018270707293	ST. Open	St.T, Prs, Fur
July 1st	Ter Dries Flyball & Dogschool, Belgium	TER DRIES	
	Contact – Luc Ysebaert, Tel.0032 3 481 90 68	Open	
	This is the 3rd European Championship		
July 7/8th	Askham Bryan, York	WAKEFIELD TYKES	ST. Open (Ltd)
	Contact – Alison Booth Tel. 01977 795156		
July 14/15th	Nostell Priory Country Show, Wakefield		ST. Open (LTD) – Fun
	Contact – Modern Dog Sports	Tel. 01730 266633	
July 21/22nd	3rd Round Summer Championship Walsall, West Midland	WOLF PACK	ST. Oper
	Contact – Anne Johnson Tel. 0121 443 1535		
Aug. 4/5th	Trafford Water Park, Cheshire	NORTHERN BYTES	ST. Open MB
	Doreen Smith, Tel.0161 4940787		Cl.D – 24 th July
Aug. 25/27th	Four Counties Country Show, Measham, Leics.		ST. Open (Ltd) – Fun
	Contact – Modern Dog Sports	Tel. 01730 266633	
Aug. 26th	Stoneleigh, Warks	PODS	ST. Open
	Contact - Peter Roberts Tel.01604 648085, Mob.0850862872		
Sept. 22/23rd	Trafford Water Park, Cheshire	NORTHERN BYTES	ST. MB. Open
	Doreen Smith, Tel.0161 4940787		Cl.D – 11 th Sept
Oct. 6/7th	Essex Country Show – Contact Modern Dog Sports	Tel.01730 266633	ST Open (Ltd)
Oct. 13/14th	Eastnor Castle – Contact Modern Dog Sports	Tel.01730 266633	ST. Open (Ltd) MB
Nov. 10/11th	Petersfield - Contact – Modern Dog Sports	Tel.01730 266633	ST. Open (Ltd) MB
Dec. 8/9th	Petersfield – Contact – Modern Dog Sports	Tel.01730 266633	ST. Open (Ltd) MB

**All the above Tournaments are subject to change because of the
‘Foot & Mouth’ epidemic.**

**If you want to confirm a Tournament is running please contact the
Show Organiser.**

FURTHER THOUGHTS FROM TUG

Funny things these humans! When I go to Flyball Competitions most of us dogs like to bark, sorry, cheer the other dogs on when we are watching the racing. My owner keeps telling me to be quiet and my friends tell me their owners do the same.

Have you ever watched the humans game of football?

I've only seen it on television but next time it's on, you watch the people at the sides of the pitch. They are all barking, sorry, cheering and they don't get told off. As for the football game itself, the team members are poorly trained!

Some examples:- They run all over the place, they can't keep in straight lines the way we are taught, the ball keeps hitting their paws, sorry, feet and running away from them. Have you seen them try to catch the ball in their mouth? Hopeless!

The ball keeps hitting the top of their head or their chest, I would really be in trouble if that happened every time I went to the box. I have even seen opponents going for the same ball at times and the Judge in the middle hardly ever blows the whistle for interference.

To cap it all, I once saw one of the team give the ball to the Judge at the end of the game. My owner would have gone mad if I gave the ball to the Judge.

TUG (RON EDGE, Northern Bytes)

[illegible]

THANK YOU to the BRISTOL BALL-ISTICS FLYBALL TEAM

I would like to express my thanks to all the members of the Bristol Ball-istics Flyball Team and other Flyballers, for their help and support throughout the summer of 2000 while I was having treatment for breast cancer. Barney is especially grateful to those who took him to Tournaments and allowed him to keep running when I was unable to. It so far looks as if 2001 will be a better year and I look forward to racing as much as possible.

On that note, congratulations to the PODS for running yet another wonderful show at Market
Harborough (21-01-01) and I look forward to the next of the winter league series. Happy Flyballing!

DEBBIE HARDING (Bristol Ball-istics/Ball-istic Missiles)

“Without the Shepherd’s Dog, the whole of the open mountainous land in Scotland would not be worth a sixpence”.

James Hogg, The Ettrick Shepherd

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Have you sent your Membership & Team renewal Fees

The B.F.A. Address is - PO Box 109, Petersfield, GU32 1XZ

**Don't forget to Contact the Show Organiser to confirm a
Tournament is running**

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