



BRITISH FLYBALL ASSOCIATION
WWW.FLYBALL.ORG.UK
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Important documents enclosed in this issue



Two in a Row
Live Wires European and British Champions 2012



LIVE WIRES AT 'THE DOUBLE'

What a great year 2012 turned out to be for Live Wires Flyball Teams! The year started fairly ignominiously, but during the summer months, picked up and gathered force. After reducing our own BFA record time, (**16.32 secs**) at our own show in May, **Live Wires** were thrilled to gain a further two titles.

From 2007 (when we first won the BFA Championships) we've certainly built on that, becoming BFA Champions twice (2011 & 2012) and 2nd in 2008 & 2010. More recently, with High Flyers we also starred in **ITV's 'Red or Black'**.

Ahead of either competition this year, we didn't really have any expectations, but surprised ourselves and have realised since that *gaining both the European and British Championships titles in the same year is quite unique!* It was a fitting end to a hard fought campaign over a 4 week period during July & August! Despite the gloomy summer we stayed lucky, with the weather remaining fine for all our races.

Against strong opposition in both events, Wires were unbeaten. We felt very proud that *in the 14 years the European Championships have been held, we were the first team from the UK to win the title.* Three of our other teams (Copper, Electrics & Connexion) also gained successes (2nd & 3rd) over the two competitions.

Thanks to the organisers of both events (High Flyers/Alpha Dogz and the BFA Committee) for putting on hugely successful and enjoyable shows. Thanks too for the support from other BFA teams and our Sponsor, CSJ.

Anne Alcock (Live Wires)

WUFF'N'READY

would like to congratulate the following members
on gaining awards during the past few months:-



GOLD AWARD

Lesley with **Buzz**- Border Collie



SILVER AWARD

Ann with **Tizzy** – Crossbreed

Carol with **Jed** -Flatcoated Retriever

Well done from all the team.

Stop press

We would also like to congratulate **Little Willow**(the smallest dog with the biggest mouth),
on gaining her **flyball dog award**.

Willow competed in her first open tournament at the British Flyball Championships, and did us proud.

Well done Willow, and Sally of course, from all your team mates.

Greetings Flyballers

One of the 'little things sent to try me' when compiling each issue of the FR is space. Now you would think that this should be an easy task. Not so. I have to work in multiples of 4 so it's 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28 and occasionally 32 or 36 pages. If I have enough items for just one page over the top it means having to find something to fill *three* more pages, so I hope you can see my dilemma. Unfortunately with this issue my 'little thing' has hit me again so I've left out the seed lists (5 pages) with my apologies to those who like to see them included.

This has been an extraordinary year in so many ways – the Diamond Jubilee, the Olympic Games, our own European and British Championships, new record times created and ... the weather! Many tournaments had to be abandoned due to the awful weather we have experienced but as always the flyball spirit kept us going despite many members missing out on some of their flyball fixes. It's been tough for tournament organisers as well having done all their hard work only to have no choice but to abandon racing.

Like so many tournaments this year we were served some bad weather on the Friday but managed to get through our racing. However despite some very hot weather on Saturday and Sunday leaving the venue was difficult due to the ground conditions. Arbury staff went beyond their call of duty to get us all off safely. Flyballers again showed their best side when many went to Pam Harrison's funeral but managed to get through racing before darkness fell after our two hour delay. Many a tear was shed at the ceremony but what an uplifting experience also.

As the number of Scottish teams has increased we held our first seminar in Perth to enable members to ring party and judge to a good standard, our thanks go to Lomond Raiders for their hard work sourcing the venue and hospitality.

More recently we have had a useful conference with Qualified and Head Judges to clarify rules and interpretations. Some rules will be 'tweaked' to cover these clarifications in the January rule changes however it seems that the work that has been done on the rule book has been generally successful. Of course there will always be queries that need to be addressed from time to time.

The **advance notice** of next year's AGM can be found on page 8 together with dates for receipt of any rule proposals and nominations for Committee.

Finally, your **Membership Renewal Form** is enclosed in this issue and this becomes our Membership Secretary's busiest time of year so please read and follow the information contained on P22, (it's also on the back of the renewal form). **Please** send off your completed form straight away before you put it aside to do later and then miss the **1st January 2013 deadline**.

Season's Greetings and a happy flyballing year to you all. Ed.



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**Items for the next Issue of the
Flyball Record
must be received by
1st February 2013**

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CHAIRPERSON'S SLOT

As another year ambles towards its end, it's a time for reflection on the past twelve months in BFA flyball. I am sure that none of us could ever have imagined the mixture of emotions that were experienced within the sport.

The year started, for many, with excitement and anticipation as teams introduced their novice dogs, new members and team line ups. Winter training sessions, in rain, wind and even snow, are all worth it when we see the novice dog complete its first clean run or the new member get their "flyballers eye" and achieve good passes. The first divisional placing for a new team line-up is always special... and often a relief!!

The weather caused much frustration but great flyball achievements were still gained.

Extreme Racers broke the British record with the amazing time of 16.06, becoming not only the fastest team in the UK but also in Europe. The sub 16 second time was now so close and the excitement generated each time they raced, was palpable for all who watched.

The European Championships at Littleport show cased European flyball at its best, with strong competition from many other European countries, where flyball is growing rapidly. The opening ceremony was attended by teams from Belgium, Germany, Poland, and Austria alongside the UK, where flags were waved and cheers raised as each team were introduced. The racing was close throughout the three days, with the divisional finals providing tremendous excitement. All the BFA teams performed extremely well, with many teams winning speed trials, achieving divisional wins and placings, making it onto the winners podium. Live Wires became the first UK team to win the European Championships beating the reigning champions, Jolly Jumpers from Belgium in the final. I am sure you will agree, a fantastic achievement for all the team. The EFC 2012 was filmed and shown early September, great to see many familiar faces both human and canine on the TV!!!

With many tournaments cancelled due to the weather, the National Championships were also under threat, and the committee had many nervous hours looking at weather forecasts. To be fair, the weather gave us a battle as the deluge of rain continued for over one day during the setting up period. Once you have reached the point of total saturation, replacing your clothing, waiting until the rain subsides or holding an umbrella becomes pointless, so we continued to squelch our way through. Many of you arrived on Thursday, welcomed by rain and helpers in luminous jackets, however in true flyballing spirit, tents were pitched, caravans parked, team flags erected, followed very quickly by conversation and laughter as members got together. Arbury stood up to the weather well, and soon the Championships were under way. Again, teams performed exceptionally well, some achieving personal best times, divisional wins and placings. It is the place where we all congregate, meeting with those we see rarely and to celebrate our sport...we have some great flyball dancers out there!!!

This is the biggest event on the BFA calendar and over the years, has been the place where many members have experienced great times and memories are made. It was therefore the best platform for us to say goodbye to one of our much loved and respected flyball family members, Pam Harrison of Nuneaten Flyers. The sea of colour as we all stood in our flyball kits, listening to Pam's friends and family as they shared their memories of her, was a sight to behold and one which I am sure Pam would have loved (even those of us who had come straight from the racing lanes and were mud splattered!!) She touched the lives of so many and her love, knowledge, wisdom and great sense of humour will be so very much missed by her family, the Nunnies and the BFA. I am sure she would be one of the first to congratulate the Live Wires as they held the Championship trophy for the second year in succession.

The committee continues to serve the membership and is looking forward to the changes ahead as we lead the association forward. The website has now been relocated to a new server in preparation to enable online payment of fees, starting with membership renewal this year. The development of a new website will be done in stages over the next year or so. We would like to thank Nigel Bouckley for all his efforts

over the years as BFA webmaster. The laser system measuring devices are currently being purchased with the aim of implementing these over the coming months. The regional representative programme is in its early stages but progress is steadily being made. The lights working party continue to investigate development of EJS for the future. Thank you to all those who serve on the committee or as BFA officers for your continued efforts, they are very much appreciated. I would ask that we all are courteous and respectful when communicating with BFA officials and that you contact the correct person via the correct channel. Please do not send BFA enquiries to the committee via their Facebook accounts as these may be missed.

The committee recently hosted a judging and ring party seminar in Perth, Scotland. This is the first time a seminar has been held in Scotland, and it was felt that as the sport continues to grow in this region of the UK, the BFA needs to actively support its members in their quest to ensure competent judging and ring parties. We received such a warm welcome and we all learnt so much from each other. It was great to see the enthusiasm for our sport and the drive to really develop flyball in Scotland. Meeting up with those members we knew and those who have only just begun playing flyball resulted in many flyball related conversations! The future of flyball north of the border is in safe hands

So what will next year bring? There are those events that we expect and those that will be unexpected but each one will bring new experiences. How we respond to those experiences is important, whether we win or lose, has to be done in a sporting manner. A respected long time member of the BFA recently commented to me that teams applauding each other after the race has finished, is now the exception rather than the rule. Our sport has always been known for its sportsmanship and friendships; we have to ensure this continues. Fast times, divisional wins and flyball awards pale into insignificance if they are achieved in a sport that has lost sight of its origins - having fun with your dog. Healthy rivalry, strong competition makes for great racing but it's only great if there is mutual respect and enjoyment for all involved. UK flyball is flourishing and we are achieving great things. If we can continue to do this whilst embracing the spirit of flyball that is an achievement we can all be proud of.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas. May 2013 bring you all flyball fun, friendship and success. Have fun with your dogs! See you on the circuit

Sharon

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Paula Oakley Hampshire Harriers
 Sam Ratcliffe Tails We Win
 Helena Tuttle Eastcoast
 Penny Hellowell Springers
 Sue,Mark&NicoleMatthews&RyanByrneSheffield Speeders
 Tracey Seal Hinckley Hooligans
 Claire & Daniel Turton Eastcoast
 Joe Cross Knebworth Twisters
 Christine Bugg Buccaneers
 Lisa Ogilvie Pure Krackers
 Susan Dennis Dream Team
 Anthony Williams Aces High
 Lisa Stobbs Karma Kanines
 Sarah Lesting Aces High
 Megan Quinn Rotherham Rockets
 Lorraine Hickey The Sussex Screammers
 JohnDillon,CarolineWells&YasminYoung Newton Heath
 Dragons
 Laura Miller TBC
 Bhavnesh Patel Molten Magnets
 Carole Gray & Niall Filshie Brigg Muttley Crew
 Megan Stent-Reid Barkshire Bandits
 Lesley Fage The Abbots
 Patrick Cowlard Cool Runners
 Allan Webster Flea Jumperz
 David Perrin Ramsden Rockers
 David Green Tails We Win
 Rachel Walters & Josie Phillips All4One
 Kelsey Dawson Calverley Chasers
 Stephen Waring Hampshire Harriers
 Nicole & Paul Bodgers The Northern Bytes
 Vivienne,Stephen,Kyle&ElenMoloney Mansfield Marnicks
 Debbie & Ray Bryant Kent Krusaders
 Alistair Kirk & Emily Wilcox Merlin's Magicians
 Sarah Pendred The Abbots
 Anthony Watson Calverley Chasers
 Charlotte Corrigan Manx Missiles
 Jessica Farrar Shawcross Racers
 Catherine, Mike, Harry & Sam Nixon Crazy Cannons
 Phillipe Townsend Allstars
 Angela & Hannah Russell Keresley K9 Runners
 Sue McGlinchey & Ged Dolan Live Wires
 Fiona Smart Dundee Dynamutz
 Jennifer & Stuart Bruce Dundee Dynamutz
 Val Young Whiterose Wagtails
 Allan Thomson Karma Kanines
 Lyn McMurray & Niall Whitehead Allstars
 Marion Palmer Suffolk Spitfires
 Laura Bicknell Dean Dynamos
 Sue Edwards Allstars
 Juan Ruiz Escuder & Jane Robison The Flying Scots
 Rachael Newsome Greetland Grasshoppers

Crystal Copping Ramsden Rockers
 Peter Bathgate Brigg Muttley Crew
 Jennifer Hart Supersonic Saltires
 Steven Bates Nottingham Flyers
 Maureen Dench & Prudence Wilson Durham Bombers
 Will Cosens All4One
 Karen Houghton The Doghouse
 Helen King Crazy Cannons
 Gloria Harvey The Abbots
 Angela Carr Crazy Cannons
 Alexandra Mason Kent Krusaders
 Donna Holderness Loud Barking
 Alison Bolton The Abbots
 June Evans Greetland Grasshoppers
 Linda Riding Calverley Chasers
 Sarah Woods Allstars
 Martin Lamb DogStar
 Julie Seddon Loud Barking
 Alan Laing Crazy Cannons
 Dyanne Mudie The Flying Scots
 Louisa Warburton & David Scott Munchkin Misfits
 Elizabeth Durham Free Wheelers
 Julie & Christopher Thornton The Doghouse
 Fiona Ayto & Mark Caine Calverley Chasers
 Claire Robinson Sheffield Speeders
 Lorna Cameron Eastcoast
 Margaret,Tammie & Cavan Withers Flea Jumperz
 Matthew Golding Shooting Stars
 Justine Robinson Bury K9's
 Shirley Hansen All4One
 Tony & Joseph Cawley Keresley K9 Runners
 Sue Crane Flying Foxes
 Richard, Jane & Nicholas Yarwood Bury K9's
 Lindsay & Derek Stocks The Flying Scots
 Claire Henderson & Alistair Campbell The Flying Scots
 Gemma Stockdale & James Harrison Calverley Chasers
 Maureen Hartley Loud Barking
 Sally Coughlan DogStar
 Claudia Fornari All4One
 Paul Godfrey Formula One
 Gordon Tollhurst & Laura Jacques Karma Kanines
 Ryan Pauksztello Carry On's
 Dani Cohen Bury K9's
 Hazel & Robbie Galloway & Ian King The Flying Scots
 GordonFotheringham&PatriciaGreenwoodThe Northern
 Bytes
 Craig & Chloe Fitzgerald & Lucy Foster Formula One
 Sarah Loveland Karma Kanines
 Peter Adlam Newton Heath Dragons
 Bethany Albrighton Mansfield Marnicks
 Lynn Armer Cheshire Set

Spencer



I saw you there upon the floor,
As soon as I walked through the door.
Three weeks old, as cute as can be,
I knew you were the one for me.
Five more weeks I had to wait,
The 6th May, was the date.
I bought you home to settle in,
That is when the fun was to begin.



Wagging and wiggling, your tail never stops,
Although your dodgy hips occasionally make you hop.
You're always there through rain and shine,
You don't realise how proud I am to call you mine.



You've been a grump, and been a pain,
Sometimes not the easiest to train.
But you always try your best for me,
Always excited and eager to please.
Then one day we tried flyball,
Joining Racing Herts and all.



You love the game, the ball, the race,
I can see the happiness on your face.
You have achieved the BFA Silver Award,
10,000 points and I am in awe.

Of my little black dog, my special boy,
You don't realise just how much joy,
You've bought to my life and turned it round,
All the things that have changed since you've been around.

One day, maybe, the game will be up,
No more flyball for a hip dysplasia pup.

But until that day, we both know,
That we will have a damn good go.

At barking, and racing, and good changeovers (that's me!)
And going for the Gold award, but I'm not sure, we'll see.



Now with Riley and Mitch, the three musketeers,
All of you cheeky with those spaniel ears.

You're crazy; you're wriggly, never wanting a rest.

You're my number 1 black cocker spaniel,
The very best.



Charlie Anstey, (Racing Herts Flyball Team)

The growth of seed lists

The first time I edited the Flyball Record unaided was the November issue 2004 and as I haven't been able to include the seed lists in this issue, I did a bit of delving. It's either interesting or yawn making!

In 2004 there were 138 seeded teams on the list of which 108 were seeded less than 22 seconds. That's 78.2% of the teams. Just one team was seeded at over 30 seconds. 7 teams (5%) were running under 18 seconds.

Take ourselves eight years on and we have 500 seeded teams on the list of which 408 are seeded less than 22 seconds. That's 81.6% of the teams. There are currently no teams seeded at over 30 seconds. 52 teams (10.4%) are currently seeded less than 18 seconds. **(Ed.)**

**To be held at Wythall Community Hall, Wythall Park and House,
Silver Street, Wythall, Birmingham, B47 6LZ
On Sunday 7th April 2013, commencing at 10am.**

All other details including catering arrangements and directions will be published in the March Flyball Record.

The growth of Flyball in Scotland

Frank and I moved to Aberdeen the following year for work reasons, started Granite City Gems Flyball team and we have seen Flyball grow significantly in the last few years. In the 'early days' there was one weekend of Flyball a year in Scotland....yes A YEAR! Currently there are nine BFA registered teams regularly training and competing in Scotland. The number of Scottish shows has increased dramatically with Lomond Raiders running a set of successful indoor and outdoor one day tournaments, Dundee Dynamutz and Tayside Roadrunners running shows in the summer and my own team, Granite City hosting two one day open shows, and a one day multibreed tournament this year.

The shows are still small, very friendly and always enjoyable but there are some challenges.

Tournaments usually have a relatively small entry resulting in a large spread of team times in each division. Tournament organisers are usually setting up for a two division day – which involves as much work as for a larger show but without the income. The generally small number of entries (typically two divisions per show) can make it very tight to make a show financially viable. Our aim is to break even and for some shows that was a real challenge this year with the cost of venues, prizes, hire of BFA lights etc. As Flyball grows further in Scotland and more teams form and more shows are run, the sport gains momentum. More people are interested in judging and becoming qualified and with Alison Moyes as a Head Judge we can run our local shows more readily. Teams who travel more have been instrumental in delivering lights to shows (thanks to Dundee Dynamutz and Lomond again).

In early October the BFA Committee and Lomond team worked together to deliver a wonderful weekend of learning to our Scottish team members and with this support Flyball will continue to grow and improve. The best thing about Scottish Flyball (imho) is the friendly rivalry, great atmosphere at shows and co-operation between teams to get the shows underway. Long may it continue!

Marguerite Fleming (Granite City Gems)



The BALL BUSTERS Flyball Club

Wish to CONGRATULATE the following for achieving
Flyball Awards in 2011/2012

FLYBALL DOG (200 Points)

Enzo and Bill Reast

Solo and Jo Appleton

FLYBALL DOG INTERMEDIATE (1,000 Points)

Enzo and Bill Reast

Donnie and Tony Ball

Tip and Emma Johnson

Acer and Jo Newman

Solo and Jo Appleton

FLYBALL DOG GRADUATE (3,000 Points)

Purdy and Barry Collins

Indi and Jo Newman

Charlie and Alison Newton

Honey and Sean Newton

Enzo and Bill Reast

Solo and Jo Appleton

FLYBALL DOG ADVANCED (5,000 Points)

Wilko and Sharon Byrne

Poppy and Bill Reast

Purdy and Barry Collins

Izzy and Bill Reast

Indi and Jo Newman

Charlie and Alison Newton

SILVER (10,000 Points)

Shale and Julia Kearney

Amber and Mark Parrick

Megan and Debbie Collins

Poppy and Tony Newton

Wilko and Sharon Byrne

GOLD (15,000 Points)

Lizzie and Julia Kearney

Sasha and Jim Grzenkowicz

Millie and Rainer Appleton

ICE BLUE MOON (20,000 Points)

Milo and Bill Reast

Lizzie and Julia Kearney

All the Ball Busters handlers would also like to thank
June and **Penny** (our boxloaders) without whom
none of the above would be possible!

BFA Championships Division Winners

Judge	Division	Team	Fastest Time
Tony Cain	1	Live Wires	16.31
Bridget Leek	2	Mansfield Marnicks	17.06
Rachel Child	3	Water Orton Wonderdogs	17.23
Brenda Holland	4	Northants Falcons	17.64
Darryl Ogden	5	Nuneaton Flyers	17.81
Steve Leek	6	Delta Destroyers	17.72
Dianne Halstead	7	Hinkley Hooligans	17.62
Chris Fulford	8	Bristol Ball-istic Rockets	17.97
Fiona Gomm	9	Fylde Coasters	18.16
Maureen Hendry	10	High Impact	18.29
Kerry Sugden	11	Supersonic Saltires	17.96
Howard Campbell	12	Honey Monsters	18.37
Caroline Wade	13	Cheshire Cheeses	18.28
Amanda Liversage	14	Molten Magic	18.60
Penny Charlton	15	Eastcoast Angels	18.67
Andy Bawden	16	Lightning Shocks	18.80
Mark Child	17	Manx Missiles	18.84
Zara Silver	18	Hatfield Hyperdogs	18.83
Louise Satchwell	19	Essex Expectations	19.34
Kristian Allcorn	20	Lightning Hurricanes	19.52
Sharon Allcorn	21	Grasshopper Gremlins	19.29
David Flood	22	Rooky Racers	19.34
Rebecca Solomon	23	Bone Chillers	19.22
Jenni Wallace	24	Ready2Rock	19.35
Antony James	25	Time Chasers	19.40
Sonya Taylor	26	Doncaster Belle Stars	21.17
Ryan Mills	27	Demon Cubz	20.10
Debbie Holding	28	Water Orton Puppy Dogs	20.15
Gail Baker	29	Forge Mill Flyers	20.00
Sam Bawden	30	Lomond Bandits	20.17
Richard Liversidge	31	Eastcoast Angels	21.58
Andrew Short	32	Reivers Roaming	20.79
Nichola Croft	33	Trying 4 Mutts	21.10
Hazell Brown	34	Funky Furballs	21.73
Val Currie	35	Cotswold Typhoons	21.16
Tony Hodge	36	Danetre Waves	20.82
Nikki Manley	37	Brigg Muttley Mischief	21.65
Jason Baker	38	Tees Valley Steamers	22.13
Joe Mitchell	39	Water Orton Thunderdogs	21.59
Gemma Hardiman	40	Active8 Air	23.66
Sue North	41	Blackpool Orion	23.42
Rebecca Turner	42	Bassett Strollers	22.62
Darren Dent	43	Midshire Mud Pack	22.84
Leanne Hyde	44	Flea Powderz	24.94
Mark Peck	45	Merlins Magicians	24.01

In Loving Memory of Pamela Harrison

Who sadly passed away this year on the 3rd August 2012 at Scarborough.



Pamela started flyball back in 1998, we had our first year of training before then qualifying for Crufts. With Pams confident words we went to Crufts 1999 and won. Using her brilliant guidance and excellent knowledge of the sport, we then went on to win Crufts many more times and even to be the team to win the first time after the changing of the boxes. Pam was also a brilliant Crufts judge, BFA judge and Head Judge. She was very wise about flyball and if you ever wanted to know anything that is who you went to see. She was a very giving person who would do anything to help someone out, being very determined to get the best out of all the dogs and handlers.

As a member of the Nuneaton Flyers, Pam would not have allowed you to enter the arena for ring party, judging, or racing without full Nuneaton uniform, and that was the law! Pam always spoke her mind, was very confident, strong and big hearted, and she will be sadly missed but not forgotten.

We would just like to say a big thank you to Sam Bawden for her kind words that she shared with us all at the funeral and to Chris Moore for his heart felt poem about Pam plus a big thank you to all who attended the Funeral, we had an attendance figure of over 200 people.

Then there is another big thank you to all of you who donated to Macmillan Cancer Research, we raised a huge sum of £892.

Thank you from all The Harrison Family and The Nuneaton Flyers

Winnie the Pooh. Chapter 9. Surrounded by Water.

..... “This is Serious,” said Pooh. “I must have an Escape”.

So he took his largest pot of honey and escaped with it to a broad branch of his tree, well above the water, and then he climbed down again and escaped with another pot... and when the whole escape was finished, there was Pooh sitting on his branch, dangling his legs, and there, beside him, were ten pots of honey...



....“I must find Christopher Robin or Owl or Piglet, one of those Clever Readers who can read things, and they will tell me what this message means. Only I can't swim. Bother!”



Then he had an idea, and I think that for a Bear of Very Little Brain, it was a good idea. He said to himself:

“If a bottle can float, then a jar can float, and if a jar floats, I can sit on the top of it, if it's a very big jar.”

So he took his biggest jar, and corked it up.



“All boats have to have a name,” he said, “so I shall call mine *The Floating Bear*.” And with those words he dropped his boat into the water and jumped in after it.

For a little while Pooh and *The Floating Bear* were uncertain as to which of them was meant to be on the top, but after trying one or two different positions, they settled down with *The Floating Bear* underneath and Pooh triumphantly astride it, paddling vigorously with his feet....



...“Now then, Pooh,” said Christopher Robin, “where's your boat?”
“I ought to say,” explained Pooh as they walked down to the shore of the island, “that it isn't just an ordinary sort of boat. Sometimes it's a Boat, and sometimes it's more of an Accident. It all depends.”



“Depends on what?”

“On whether I'm on the top of it or underneath it.”

“Oh! Well, where is it?”

“There!” said Pooh, pointing proudly to *The Floating Bear*.

It wasn't what Christopher Robin expected, and the more he looked at it, the more he thought what a Brave and Clever Bear Pooh was, and the more Christopher Robin thought this, the more Pooh looked modestly down his nose and tried to pretend he wasn't.

“But it's too small for two of us,” said Christopher Robin sadly.

“Three of us with Piglet.”

“That makes it smaller still. Oh, Pooh Bear, what shall we do?”



And then this Bear, Pooh Bear, Winnie the Pooh... – said something so clever that Christopher Robin could only look at him with mouth open and eyes staring, wondering if this was really the Bear of Very Little Brain whom he had known and loved so long.

“We might go in your umbrella,” said Pooh.

“?”

“We might go in your umbrella,” said Pooh.

“??”

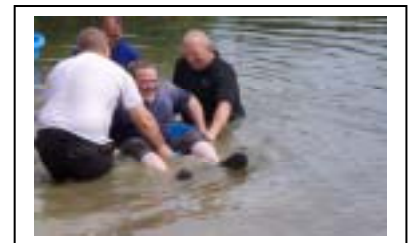
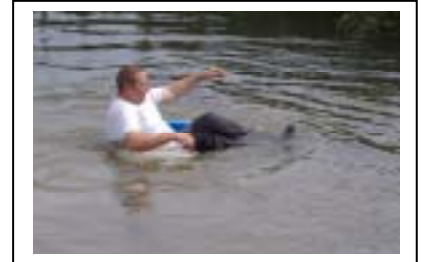
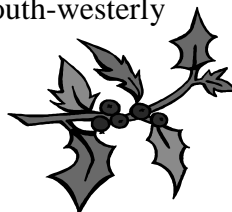
“We might go in your umbrella,” said Pooh

“!!!!!!”

For suddenly Christopher Robin saw that they might. He opened his umbrella and put it point downwards in the water. It floated but wobbled. Pooh got in. He was just beginning to say that it was all right now, when he found that it wasn't, so after a short drink, which he really didn't want, he waded back to Christopher Robin. Then they both got in together, and it wobbled no longer.

“I shall call this boat *The Brain of Pooh*,” said Christopher Robin, and *The Brain of Pooh* set sail forthwith in a south-westerly direction, revolving gracefully.

Nikki Manley (Muskerhounds)



Here is the poem for anyone who wasn't able to make it to the funeral service.

PAMS LAST WORDS

Don't cry for me for I am not dead,
Always remember what I have said,
I am the morning dew on the flyball lane,
The jumps so wet from a normal day's rain,
I am the sunshine each glistening ray,
To keep you all warm throughout the day,
I am the wind that lifts the marquee,
Each whistling sound, that will be me,
I will live in you all, each smile and laughter will lighten your soul,
In death as in life my only goal,
All of our memories I ask to hold in your heart,
My bond with you all will never part,
I will watch you all grow then I will kiss you all goodnight,
And when it's time to join me I'll be the one holding the light,
My morals now must echo around the whole show,
I will be there listening when your meant to shout go,
Heads held high walk every step with pride,
Be strong, no need to worry I'll be right by your side.



European Results

Two of our intrepid Flyball Teams –High Flyers and Alpha Dogz took on the mammoth task of hosting the European Championships this year. They were pleased to welcome several teams from across the Channel and (I suspect) a little astounded by the number of ‘home’ teams who wanted to experience the European format without the hassle of pet passports etc. The event was by all accounts an enjoyable occasion with some new friendships gained.

Live Wires were of course delighted to become the first British Team to win the European Championships.

The table below shows those ‘home’ teams that gained 1st – 3rd in their divisions – every one of which had a British Team running. Any ‘missing’ teams from the placings will be from our Euro friends. What an achievement by all those that were involved.

Division	Position	Team	Fastest Time
1	1st	Live Wires	16.57
2	1st	Dream Team Supreme	17.16
2	2nd	Copper Wires	17.62
2	3rd	Aces	17.45
3	2nd	Speed Demonz	17.22
3	3rd	Alpha Dogs	17.70
4	1st	Cambridgeshire Canines	17.60
4	2nd	Lightning Strikes	17.64
5	1st	Hinkley Hooligans	17.49
5	2nd	High Tempo	17.53
5	3rd	Delta Destroyers	17.57
6	2nd	Hampshire Harriers	17.88
6	3rd	Warwickshire Whirlwinds	18.28
7	1st	Brigg Muttley Missiles	18.58
7	2nd	High Impact	18.36
7	3rd	Electric Wires	19.04
8	1st	Lightning Sparks	18.75
8	2nd	Deva Dogmatix	18.70
8	3rd	Fantastic 4	18.72
9	1st	Rotherham Runners	19.02
9	2nd	Hinkley Hounds	19.14
10	1st	Grease Lightning	19.21
10	3rd	Hampshire Hooligans	19.68
11	1st	Lightning Sprites	19.62
11	2nd	Delta Force	19.70
11	3rd	Carry On Regardless	19.73
12	3rd	Multi Mix UK	20.87
13	1st	Shooting Bolt	20.34
13	2nd	Tails You Lose	20.25
13	3rd	Aces Angelz	20.46
14	1st	Hampshire Hounds	21.16
14	3rd	Demon Angelz	21.05
15	1st	Hinkley Heelers	22.11
15	3rd	Bassett Tutti Fruittis	22.36

Happy Anniversary to Storm Chasers!

Twelve months ago Darryl and I were happily running with Rotherham Flyball teams, I didn't want the "hassle" of running my own team, but having been asked numerous times by members of my training classes to start my own, as they all wanted to know what it was about and have a go for themselves, I finally took the plunge!

So we did it, we set up Storm Chasers Flyball Team, with a teary farewell; we left RFT with a wealth of knowledge on how to run a flyball team successfully. Our first training session was held on 24th Sept 2011, (at this point we were still running with RFT and they had been kind enough to lend us their box for training). I was overwhelmed by the number of people who turned up wanting to have fun; around 25 dogs arrived for our first session! Seven people signed up there and then for "Competitive Flyball."

After waiting for what seemed like a lifetime our team name "Storm Chasers" had been accepted and we eagerly entered our first competition; only one team; at Gap Farm on November 6th. From what I recall we did ok, gaining a 4th place. From there we grew in numbers, teams and confidence. We now have 11 Open dogs, 10 Starter dogs (2 of which should have made their Open debuts by the time this has gone to print!) and 16 human members. Brand new dogs running with Storm Chasers are:

Tes: Border Collie, Tes was a natural when it came to Flyball; she got to grips with it straight away and was the first to gain her Flyball Dog Award.

Billy: BC, Another natural though he really struggled with getting to grips with the box, Billy has also now gained his Flyball Dog Award

Digby: BC, a dog that could do Flyball in his sleep, now running with the top team as start dog, Digby can be hard work for his mum and appreciates his own space, but together they make a great team and are truly inseparable. Digby is our third and currently final dog to gain his Flyball Dog Award

Skye: GSD x Husky; Skye has not yet made her Open Debut (unless of course you count Anglesey when she did laps of honour around the ring and didn't actually manage to complete a leg!) Skye and her owner Emily have worked really hard to get her where she is, Skye is bit like "Winnie the Pooh;" a head full of fluff and stuff! Hopefully by the time this edition has been published, Skye will have successfully run in Open!

Paddy: Sprollie; Paddy was another dog that took to Flyball immediately, never faltering and running consistently every time. Sadly Paddy has been kept in starters due to his lack of confidence around other dogs, Natalie has worked exceptionally hard with him over the past 12 months and now he is able to focus on her completely despite being surrounded by chaos! Paddy should also be making his Open debut very soon!

Calluna and Chance both BC's, will have run their first starters comp by now, and if I know them at all, they won't have done it quietly! With any luck however they both will have managed to complete a full leg before causing too much havoc!

Amber: BC, Amber is another dog with a "head full of magic" but she has surprised us all with her focus in the ring, she may be one to watch out for!

Kai: BC, although not entirely new to Flyball, he has been a real "mission" for me, he is now much more focused than he ever was and I will not give up until he is successfully running in Open!

Our highlights have been; Gaining Sponsorship from Dorwest Herbs, new dogs receiving their Flyball Dog Awards, **Honey** and **Kane** receiving their Silver Award and being the only Rotties in the UK to do so. Also our feature in our local newspaper, our 12 month Birthday party, our wonderful week at Anglesey and of course our first British Championships!

Our top team is still "chasing" that elusive Div one, 1st Place rosette, I'm sure it will come, as will our sub 17 second seed time, but until then, we continue to train hard, keep our dogs as fit as we can, enjoy each others' company and give it our all when in that ring.

Darryl and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have helped us out, cast an experienced eye, lent a helpful hand and given 100% support to us. Most importantly thanks to RFT for everything they taught us in the few years we were with them and of course our team for sticking with us and not giving up hope in their dogs, no matter how frustrating things have been at times!

Here's to another successful year; CHEERS!

Vicki Dawe and Darryl Ogden (Storm Chasers Flyball Team)



ACER

Hi I am a seven yr old Border Collie but unlike most of my breed I am not manic in fact I find most things in life quite worrying. Mum first saw me when I was just 8 weeks old and fell in love with me. My destiny was to become an Obedience dog but that was short lived as I found humans to be very scary (not that any have ever been nasty to me).

When I was four Mum thought I might like to try Flyball so asked if she could train me. Well about three weeks later I got brave enough to get out of the car and did the practice jumps on lead. A restrained recall proved too much and I ran straight past mum, back to the safety of the car refusing to get out again that session. As the weeks went by I did get braver and stayed out longer before bolting for my safe haven. Eventually I did get confident enough to stay out training and to steal the ball from the box as long as it was always the same box loader and they didn't look at me. As time went on and with the help of a nice friend at club running up the side of the lane at training I learnt to trigger the box.

In September at the Aces High competition I was allowed to run in the Starters competition after which mum reckoned I was a super star. Things progressed well until I was running at Maidstone - when it all proved a bit much with the noise and so many people. However once I was outside again my confidence grew rapidly as long as the tent over the start line didn't flap or anyone move and over the year I achieved 100 points. My mum was thrilled and reckoned that in another year I might get my Flyball dog diploma. Well, with the help of all my friends in the Ball Busters and some natural remedy that mum gave me I excelled, getting my Diploma in April. Then exactly a year later I reached the 1000 points.

I still have my wobbly moments but thanks to Flyball I am getting better with people and even manage to say hello to some of the box judges if they sit very still. I really can not understand why they don't let me run in Division one but mum says I need to give others a chance and perhaps I'm not as fast as I think I am. I now run in the Ballbuster Babies to help them out. She actually thinks I am probably the slowest collie in the country but that's only her opinion. Then again mum thinks I'm a bit of a special needs lad but I just think I'm unique.

The amazing Acer (and mum Jo Newman)[Ball Busters]

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THE B.F.A. DIARY 2013

Key – **CLD** = Closing date for entry **O** = Open **LO** = Limited Open **M** = Multibreed **LM** = Limited_Multibreed

Jan 5/6 th	Bracknell Leisure Centre, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. 07824 833373</i>	Dream Team	LO(54 teams) CLD Dec 5 th
Jan 19/20 th	Gap Farm, Doncaster, South-Yorkshire Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Jo Johnson Tel. 01388 777547</i>	Commandos	LO 30 teams) CLD Dec 19 th
Jan 20 th	Maidstone, Kent Part of Ball Busters winter league Contact: <i>Debbie Collins Tel. 01689 607556</i>	Ball Busters	LO (35 teams) CLD Dec 14 th
Feb 9/10 th	Newark Showground, Nottinghamshire Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Naomi Harrison Tel. 07933 475569</i>	Mansfield Marnicks	LO (24 teams) CLD Jan 9 th
Feb 9 th	Perth Airport, Scone, Scotland Contact: <i>Sarah Wallace Tel.07808 912599</i>	Lomond Raiders	LO (24 teams) CLD Jan 11 th
Feb 16/17 th	Gap Farm, Doncaster, South-Yorkshire Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Jo Johnson Tel. 01388 777547</i>	Commandos	LO (30 teams) CLD Jan 16 th
Feb 17 th	Maidstone, Kent Part of Ball Busters winter league Contact: <i>Debbie Collins Tel. 01689 607556</i>	Ball Busters	LO (35 teams) CLD Jan 18 th
Feb 23/24 th	Stanney Oaks Leisure Centre, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Ann Alcock Tel.01925 267274</i>	Live Wires	LO (24 teams) CLD Jan 25 th
Mar 16/17 th	Gap Farm, Doncaster, South-Yorkshire Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Jo Johnson Tel. 01388 777547</i>	Commandos	LO (30 teams) CLD Feb 16 th
Mar 23/24 th	Drax Sports & Social Club, North-Yorkshire Held in Marquee. Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Andrew James Tel. 07833 840755</i>	Rotherham Rockets	LO (30 teams) CLD Feb 22 nd
Mar 23/24 th	Lord Roberts Centre, Woking, Surrey Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. 07824 833373</i>	Dream Team	LO (54 teams) CLD Feb 22 nd
Mar 29/30 th Apr 1 st	Fairview Farm, Stockbridge, Hampshire Contact: <i>Wayne O'Rourke Tel. 02380 394370</i>	Jets	LO (72 teams) LM (24 teams) CLD Feb 28 th
Mar 30 th Apr 1 st	Riverside Campsite, Skipton, North-Yorkshire Hosted with Eastcoast. Starters on Fri 29 th Mar. Contact: <i>Hazell Brown Tel. 07971 410223</i>	Reiver Rebels	LO (108 teams) LM (24 teams) CLD Mar 1 st
Mar 30 th Apr 1 st	Driffield Showground, Kelleythorpe, East-Yorks Contact: <i>Betty Potts Tel. 01757 703233</i>	Yorkshire Bouncers	LO (54 teams) LM (24 teams) CLD Mar 1 st
Mar 30 th Apr 1 st	Tai Lawr, Brygwrn, Anglesey Contact: <i>Delia Roberts Tel.01407 810610</i>	Pods Starters	LO (48 teams) LM (24 teams) CLD Mar 1 st
Apr 6 th	Perth Airport, Scone, Scotland Contact: <i>Sarah Wallace Tel.07808 912599</i>	Lomond Raiders	LO (24 teams) CLD Mar 8 th
Apr 7 th	Wythall Com. Centre, Silver Street, B'ham, West-Mids AGM Contact: <i>secretary@flyball.org.uk</i>	BFA Committee	CLD Mar 7 th
Apr 13/14 th	Littleport Leisure Centre, Cambs Contact: <i>Ellen Schofield Tel. 07725 904831</i>	Cambridgeshire Canines Starters	LO (72 teams) (20 teams) CLD Mar 13 th

Apr27/28 th	Cantley Park, Wokingham, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. 07824 833373</i>	Dream Team Starters, Fun Events	O CLD Mar 29 th
May 4/5 th May 6 th	Drax Sports & Social Club, North-Yorks Contact: <i>Andrew James Tel. 07833 840755</i>	Rotherham Rockets	LO (96 teams) LM(54 teams)
May 4/5 th May 6 th	Snowball Farm, Burnham, Bucks Contact: <i>Kim Sermon Tel. 07771 812862</i>	Lightning Strikes	LO (72 teams) LM (24 teams)
May 11/12 th	Larden Green Farm, Faddiley, Nantwich, Cheshire Contact: <i>Kate Gilding Tel. 01270 524992</i>	Chilli Peppers	LO (60 teams)
May 18/19 th	Padworth Village Hall, Nr Reading, Berkshire Contact: <i>Garry Black Tel. 07789 692326</i>	Kennet Zingers	LO (54 teams)
May 18/19 th	Sutton Fields, Nr Runcorn, Cheshire Contact: <i>Ann Alcock Tel.01925 267274</i>	Live Wires Starters, Fun Events	LO (60 teams) (24 teams)
May 18/19 th	Hatton Country World, Warks Contact: <i>Donna Hagland Tel. 01217 301168</i>	Water Orton Wonderdogs	LO (96 teams)
May 25/26/27 th	Maple Durham House, Reading, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. 07824 833373</i>	Dream Team	O plus Starters, fun events.
May 25/26 th May 27 th	Honnington Equestrian Centre, Tunbridge Wells, Kent Contact: <i>Janice Aird Tel. 07815 841045</i>	Shooting Stars	LO (60 teams) LM (24 teams)
May 25/26 th May 27 th	Eggborough Power Station, North-Yorks Contact: <i>Betty Potts Tel. 01757 703233</i>	Yorkshire Bouncers	LO (54 teams) LM (24 teams)
Jun 1/2 nd	West Woodlands Showground, Frome, Somerset Contact: <i>Trudy Barnard Tel. 07702 252954</i>	Somerset Scrumpys	LO (48 teams)
Jun 1/2 nd	Newark Showground, Notts Contact: <i>Stuart Harrison Tel. 01827 707293</i>	Nuneaton Flyers	O
Jun 1/2 nd	Pickering Showground, North-Yorks Contact: <i>Terry Wilkinson Tel. 01377 254962</i>	Eastcoast	LO (96 teams)
Jun 8/9 th	Ravensknowle Farm, Pontefract, West-Yorks Contact: <i>Hazell Brown Tel. 07971 410223</i>	Reiver Rebels	LO (60 teams)
Jun 8/9 th	RSPCA Southridge, Potters Bar, Herts Contact: <i>Richie O'Neill Tel. 01634 270440</i>	Hotshots	LO (54 teams)
Jun22/23 rd	Dogs Unleashed, Bakewell Showground, Derbys Teams and dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Paula Merryman Tel. 01246 414816</i>	Sheffield Speeders	LO (48 teams)
July 6/7 th	Eggborough Power Station, North-Yorks Contact: <i>Terry Wilkinson Tel. 01377 254962</i>	Eastcoast	LO (72 teams)
July 13/14 th	Mapledurham House, Nr Reading, Berks Contact: <i>Penny Charlton Tel. 01628 829623</i>	Barkshire Bandits DBARC fun day Dunday 14th July.	LO (72 teams)
July 20/21st	Ravensknowle Farm, Pontefract, West-Yorks Contact: <i>Hazell Brown Tel. 07971 410223</i>	Reiver Rebels	LO (60 teams)
July 20/21st	Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey Contact: <i>Terry Condra Tel. 01895 254427</i>	FourPaws Racing	LO (72 teams)
July 27/28 th	Tai Lawr, Brygwrn, Anglesey Contact: <i>Delia Roberts Tel.01407 810610</i>	Pods	LO (84 teams)



Question Time

Why?

➤ **Do we have incident report forms – nothing happens when you send them in!**

This is a typical reply when it is suggested to members who are rightly concerned about things like dog behaviour, handler's behaviour towards dogs, member's behaviour towards other members etc.

You feel aggrieved but you don't feel the incident warrants a £50.00 full on complaint.

It may well surprise you to find that the piece of paper you've carefully penned hasn't been scrunched up and used as target practice for lobbing a ball into the ball bucket rather than actually taking the ball to the bucket. Ball shaggers (dodging the wayward ball) will be aware that no such practice takes place!

What really happens

Our lovely Secretary receives the form and takes note of the incident. This may well be referred to the rest of the Committee for discussion of possible action before it is carefully filed away for future reference. This helps the Committee to build a 'picture' should we find we have a 'serial' offender.

Our rules allow the Committee to prefer charges within 6 months of an alleged incident/s.

The Committee is currently looking to build up a database that will save time and similar offences (ie harsh handling) will be logged together alongside the member's essential details.

➤ **Do we need to send advance results to the Treasurer with our racing fees?**

This just gives us extra work and uses more paper that will as above just be scrunched up and used for target practice.

What really happens

The racing fees envelope drops onto the treasurer's door mat and she eagerly opens it only to groan in dismay when she finds that the advance results form has not been included. Now she will have to wait until stats have uploaded the results onto the website before she knows that the correct amount has been sent. It only takes a maximum of 2 minutes to check from the advance results form, but an email will need to be sent to the TO asking for the advance results and a reply awaited. Your treasurer is loath to impose the £25.00 fine for late arrival – it's not just the money that has to be sent within 7 days!!

TO's may, if they wish, send the advance results to the treasurer by email at the same time as they send them to the Show Secretary. Just copy to valcstitchers@gmail.com

➤ **Does it take a long time for the Championships cheques to be submitted to the bank?**

What really happens

You send your entries and camping fees to the BFA Secretary and as usual for a TO, the cheques will not be submitted until after the event has taken place. For a 'normal' tournament, the TO can then go to their bank. Following the Championships, the Secretary has to pass the cheques on to the treasurer by hand (for security purposes) at the next tournament both of them are attending. The treasurer then has to process the cheques which can take several days in between other essential activities. Every cheque is logged onto the paying in slip with details of the cheque number and the team/member paying it.

Sometimes illness or accidents can prevent the treasurer from actually getting to the bank as soon as she would like. Sooo... please check your bank account rather than assume the cheque has been submitted.

If any other matters of a similar nature irk you, please feel free to send them in and we will try to answer them. It's much better to get the correct answer 'from the horse's mouth'!



R.I.P.

CHICA CHICANA JEM

11.12.1996 - 8.10.2012

From day one Chica was gifted and started winning in Obedience at six months of age reaching Test C by the age of three. She won many awards in Agility and was also in the winning team at Crufts five times. Her first BFA race was on 14th June 1998 and she became a first team dog in the PODS for the next five years, this included being part of the team winning the BFA Championship in 2000 and 2001. When the PODS moved to Anglesey Chica became a Molten Magnet. With her points increasing she became the first dog to reach 40,000 points, along with the accolade of the Chica Chicana Award bearing her name. She continued to lead the field gaining the Topaz Award 80,000 points in August 2008. So many people will remember racing her, with her, against her, many of them children learning about Flyball.

IF IT SHOULD BE ...

If it should be I grow frail and weak
And pain should wake me from my sleep,
Then you must do what must be done
For this last battle can't be won.

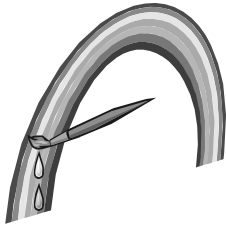
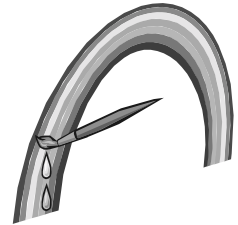
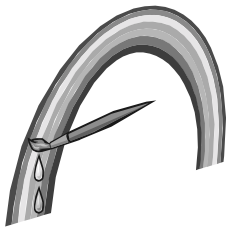
You will be sad – I understand –
Don't let your grief then stay your hand.
For this day, more than all the rest,
Your love and friendship stand the test.

We've had so many happy years
What is to come will hold no fears.
You'd not want me to suffer, so
When the time comes – please let me go.

Take me where my needs they'll tend,
Only stay with me 'till the end
And hold me firm and speak to me
Until my eyes no longer see.

I know in time you too will see,
It is a kindness you do me.
Although my tail its last has waved,
From pain and suffering I've been saved.

Do not grieve that it should be you
Who has to decide this thing to do.
We've been so close – we two – these years
Don't let your heart hold any tears.



Jean Meeking - My dog of a lifetime, I was so lucky to have her.(Molten Magnets)

New Teams

Flying Foxes *Foxes & Vixens; Fox & Co; Foxtrots*

Kent Krusaders *Kent Krusaders Dashing; Kent Crusaders Cruising; Kent Krusaders Krazies*

The Sussex Screamers *Sussex Scream Team*

Team Spirit *Team Spirit Hot Toddys; Team Spirit Moonshiners; Team Spirit Hangovers*

Pure Krackers *Knut Krackers; Kristmas Krackers; Pull a Kracker; Multi-Grain Krackers*

Membership Renewal

ALL current members will fall due for renewal on the 1st January 2013.

A Renewal Form is enclosed with this issue of the Flyball Record. Please note that New Members added to this form at the time of renewal incur the £2.50 joining fee (**per form, not per member**).

If you wish to add a new dog onto your membership please add the dog's details to the form and leave the BFA number box blank. This indicates to me that it is a new dog you wish to register. When registering a new dog you must include a full date of birth - day, month and year. I will write or e-mail to inform you of the dog's BFA number.

Please remember to complete the section at the foot of the form requiring continued agreement to abide by the Association's Current Rules & Policies and Code of Ethics, ensuring it is signed and dated. Please also remember to sign and date your cheque. If you require a receipt, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope or if you would like an e-mailed receipt, please tick the box below the BFA logo and ensure your e-mail address is printed clearly in the box provided.

If you would like to receive future copies of the Flyball Record via e-mail, please circle the word 'Yes'. If you already receive the Flyball Record via e-mail and would like to continue receiving it this way, please circle the word 'Yes' and don't forget to put your e-mail address in the box provided.

Annual Fees

Single £12.00

Joint £18.00 (2 members in one household)

Family £24.00 (2 adult members and all under 18's in one household)

Any membership renewal not received by the **1st January 2013** will be considered **LAPSED** and the joining fee of £2.50 will therefore apply.

Please remember that if you compete in a Sanctioned show and are not a current member of the BFA, you risk your whole team losing any points earned that day. Please see rule 6.1.

Please refrain from sending your Membership Forms by recorded or special delivery. They will not reach me any quicker than using my new Post Office address.

Remember any problems or questions no matter how trivial you think they may be please do not hesitate to contact myself. All my contact details are shown below.

Happy Flyballing!! **Patricia Wadby** (Membership and Team Registration)

Email:- bfamembership@gmail.com

Telephone :- 01274 787442 (Please leave a message if I'm not in all calls are returned)



Congratulations 2012

POPPIT & SKIP

Chica Chicana Award 40,000

MAX, DIESEL, MR EGG, BLUE, HENRY, ANNIE, LONZO, LADY

Silver Award 10,000

WISPA, MOSS, FERN

Advanced Award 5,000

SK YE, BERTIE

Graduate Award 3,000

MARMITE, POPPY, MALI

Intermediate Award 1,000

BELLE, RINGO

Flyball Dog Award 200



Little Chip

On a chilly January morning a little puppy was found by my eldest daughter, Maxine, dumped in a field very near where we live.

He was a very small Patterdale terrier puppy only a very few weeks old just left in a supermarket carrier bag, probably overnight, cold frightened and bewildered. We think that he was probably either an unwanted Christmas present or perhaps the one remaining unsold pup of a litter. He was brought home, warmed, cleaned up and reported to our local council dog warden. After a home visit and microchip check we were 'allowed' to keep him.

The little lad was rapidly christened Chip as he had a fleck of white on one paw and of course he was welcomed into our small pack of then two Flyball mad Border Collies.

We had never considered homing a small Terrier so we were slightly alarmed to read about the reputation of some working Terriers. Patterdale's are born to hunt apparently and were reportedly very different to our experience of our BC's particularly with regards to obedience and temperament. Chip with his docked tail was clearly of the working type rather than lapdog variety of terrier.

Temperament wise how wrong could we have been! Chip has 'grown' into a very obedient and pleasant little lad who has a terrific recall. Extremely friendly he is a great pleasure to have in our small (but ever expanding) dog pack and family.

Obviously as we were already competing in Flyball with our other dogs, little Chip was introduced early to the sport and trained once old enough to do so safely but without any expectation that he would be any good at the sport. How people must have smiled when our youngest daughter Lydia turned up shortly after he was 18 months old to race in his very first race. A small girl with a tiny scruffy dog, so small the jumps were set at the lowest 7" height. But not as surprised as when he actually raced!

If you have ever seen little Chip race it is quite extraordinary, Chip has turned into a far from the run of the mill very small height dog. So far he has a fastest recorded time of 4.5 seconds for a single leg mainly achieved because of his terrific box turn and a very low jump height over the jumps. But not only can he pull off the odd quick time, Chip regularly runs 4.7 second legs at the very start of the racing day but then will still be running them at the very end of the day as well, such is his remarkable stamina.

In 2012 Chip has really excelled himself being part of a Flyball team which won their divisions both in the European and British Championships. In Multibreed racing his team also won their division this year with a club record time of 17.41 seconds.

In September Chip was awarded his 25,000 point BFA Platinum Award being only the second Patterdale Terrier to ever earn this milestone award. This was then topped shortly afterwards when he became the all-time highest point earning Patterdale Terrier in BFA history.

And how old is this veteran of Flyball? Chip will only actually be 5 years old in November 2012 so hopefully he has a few more years Flyball left in him yet! Congratulations to little Chip and our daughter Lydia and it just goes to show how an unwanted pup can really shine given half a chance.

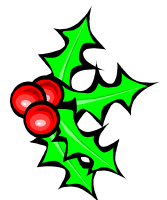
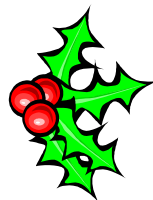
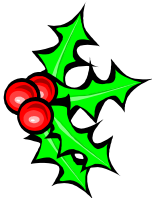
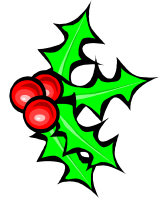
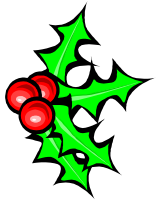
So if you do see Chip out and about at a Flyball tournament anytime please do come over and say hello and make a big fuss of him.

Stuart Walmsley (Lightning Strikes)



SEASONS GREETINGS

to All our Members



from The Committee & Officers

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