

Canterbury Kennel Assn.

Presidents Report 2016

The past twelve months have seen many highs and lows within Canterbury Kennel Assn. Fortunately there have been many more highs than lows. With the support of our very generous sponsors and our associated group, multi breed and specialty clubs we have seen a very successful year financially and development wise.

This year has seen the passing of a number of our members and dog world friends and on behalf of Canterbury Kennel Association I wish to extend our deepest sympathies to their families.

During 2015 CKA ran four championship shows, four open shows in addition to our weekly training nights and monthly match nights. Despite the falling numbers of entries worldwide our numbers kept the CKA November shows the largest in the country. My thanks to all the judges and stewards who officiated for us over the past year.

The November championship shows drew an entry of 840 dogs. The shows were completed in good time, a wonderful achievement by the judges, stewards and all concerned. I would like to pay special thanks to our sponsors over the weekend, Nutro Pet Foods and Dave and Annie McDonald of McDonald Rent-A-Car without whose generosity the show could not have been the success it was.

As always a club of this size and complexity cannot survive and prosper without the help of a great many people. Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank a number of people outside of the committee who have made significant contributions to the club of their time and kind.

Firstly to Kevin and Glenys Wells. Kevin has driven down from Nelson to man the gate at all the major shows during 2015, for this we are very very grateful. Kevin hasn't been well of late and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Margaret Osborne is another who sits outside the committee and puts in an amazing amount of work and time on our behalf purchasing, sorting and preparing the trophies and prizes for our shows.

Kathy Morton has done an amazing job running the training and match nights over the past twelve months. I am sure that those that attended would join me in thanking Kathy for all her efforts on behalf of the club.

John Davidson has once again done a sterling job in preparing the venue for all the shows. All of the wonderful comments we get about the venue are as a result of all the hours John puts into the mowing of the grass, running the irrigation system and general maintenance of the grounds. This year we brought a new ride-on mower because of a very good deal brokered by John with the dealers.

Bernard Fears ran another stewards course for us this year and has been busy preparing and submitting applications for funding for the replacement of the roof on the Stirrers Arms. This will be one of our major projects for 2016.

Our custodians Denise and Dennis Fahey continued their sterling work during the year and have done a terrific job once again, at times under trying conditions. Thank you both.

No club of this size could be successful without a dedicated and enthusiastic committee. I am very lucky to have such a committee. All have made significant contributions to your club during the past year and have made my job as President so much less complicated than it has been in years past. Our Vice President Tony Gibson has been a major part of the weekly training nights together with daughter Kathy. You will have noticed that the main building is now sporting a new and dare I may say a more attractive exterior. Tony and his team have repainted the building and are looking to do the rest of the buildings this year. Tony and Annie Gibson are currently working on a health and safety plan for the Kennel Centre to make us compliant under the new legislation.

Our secretary Arvine Gamlin has been a breath of fresh air. Arvine has done an amazing job sorting all the past records and handling the day to day duties of secretary of the largest all breeds club in the country.

As treasurer Helene Street has kept the finances in tight check. The strong balance sheet is a direct result of her control of income and expenditure. Helene works in closely with our Auditor Zane Colville and together they have put CKA on a sound financial footing.

Margaret Pantling as the Events and Bookings Manager has done a wonderful job arranging all the booking for the kennel centre over the past twelve months. I know that our associated clubs in the Canterbury area are very pleased with the service now offered by Margaret and the club.

Blair Culling has been an important member of the committee during 2015. His ability to see through issues to the core issue has been invaluable. Blair has a huge job in 2016 chairing the 2016 National Prelude Show in September. I have no doubts that he will do an exemplary job.

Helen Dupe has worked hard on the committee this year bringing a wealth of knowledge to the table and has been responsible for making the rosettes for our match nights, ribbon parades and open shows thereby saving us valuable funds.

Emma Case-Peters is another dedicated and hard-working member of the committee. Committee members Cindy Case and Wayne Burns have been very welcome additions to the committee this year and both have been very active in the weekly training nights.

2016 is going to be a very big year for CKA. With the National Dog Show being held in Christchurch under the banner Discover Dogs in September there is going to be a very large number of shows held at the kennel centre. The committee is going to be very busy preparing the venue and co-ordinating activities over the period of Nationals week. If you are available to help in any way, be it gardening, cleaning or whatever we would welcome your assistance.

2016 will bring challenges as every year does but together we can overcome them and more the development of your venue forward. Projects for 2016 include, reroofing the stirrers, installing a new irrigation line, tree planting, shade sails in rings five and six and repairing and refurbishing the kitchen. All this and keeping in the black.

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish you a very successful 2016 and look forward to your continued support for CKA. And as I said in last years report "That which you put in today benefits us all for years to come."

Thank You

Brian Harris

President