

# Twenty Years

Twenty years in the history of the breed is not a long while but it is a significant milestone in the life of the club, which was formed in 1982 following a meeting held at my home after that year's Canberra Royal.

The club started the following year to hold Open Shows on the Canberra Royal weekend in February. These Open Shows continued for some years until the club was officially affiliated with the RNSWCC when we moved to the current format of a Championship show in October and a Sanction show in April/May. The current set up seems to suit most people and I would imagine will continue for the foreseeable future.

One of our more significant projects was to produce an extended Standard illustrated with photographs kindly provided by our off shore Patron Anne Roslin Williams. These were distributed to licensed Group 2 judges both here and in New Zealand and were particularly well received. Given that the original supplies are now well nigh exhausted perhaps we should think seriously about a re print.



The club continues to produce a quarterly newsletter "The Border Bugle" with wide distribution throughout Australia, New Zealand and beyond. With a Club membership as widespread and isolated as ours the importance of the newsletter in keeping members in touch with one another can scarcely be over estimated.

The Club shows have almost taken on a life of their own and run very smoothly for those concerned with their management. The fact that both shows have built up traditions - mainly associated around food, I must admit - is a



reassuring sign that exhibitors obviously enjoy the shows and that they will continue their support. The championship show is fortunate to have a wonderful array of perpetual trophies which chronicle the breed's development in their country by the inscriptions they bear. They are indeed a most valuable breed record.

That the club has survived 20 years and indeed is as strong as it has been at any stage during its existence is a source of great pleasure, I know, to those who started it off. I'm sure that with the new people taking an active role both in the breed and the club the future remains rosy indeed.

**Robert Bartram**

