

IT'S OFFICIAL – DOGS ENTERED ARE 171 UP ON LAST YEAR, WITH A RECORD ENTRY OF OVERSEAS COMPETITORS!

The Kennel Club is pleased to announce the final total number of entries for Crufts 2003. It is 22,431, from 21,031 dogs, which is 171 more dogs than last year and the fifth largest in Crufts history.

The 2003 show has also attracted an overseas entry of 543 dogs, an all time Crufts record. It is envisaged that this figure will continue to increase each year, as the PETS Travel Scheme gathers momentum and overseas competitors make the journey to the UK to exhibit at the greatest dog show in the world!

Said Crufts Chairman Peter Mann, "The Kennel Club is extremely pleased with the 2003 entry, which reaffirms Crufts to be both the biggest and best dog show in the world. This improved entry, coupled with the recent announcement that Kennel Club registrations rose toward the end of last year, should be greeted with optimism by all of us within the world of dogs and we should all be looking forward to a fantastic show".

Groups and attractions are scheduled to appear on the following days. For further information please visit www.crufts.org.uk, or telephone 44 (0)20 7518 1012.

Thursday	06 March Gundog Group Obedience Championships (Bitches) Breeder Stakes Final YKC Agility
Friday	07 March Working & Pastoral Groups Obedience Championships (Dogs) Agility Championships
Saturday	08 March Terrier & Hound Groups Inter-regional Obedience Competition
Sunday	09 March Toy & Utility Groups Agility and Flyball BEST IN SHOW

And in a note we received from overseas, The Afghan Hound entry is 333 (sorry - no details as yet as to how many in each sex); Miniature Poodles are 122; Basenjis are 84. All three are excellent entries and are definitely up on the last couple of years so you, Bob and Kay have definitely all done Australia proud.



We are delighted to report that on Australia Day 2003, the names of two members of the canine fraternity appeared in the Honours List. What is even more pleasing is that they come from two different "sides" of our dog world. If only we, the fancy, could also think laterally, how much better off could our sport be?

The AM (A Member in the General Division of The Order of Australia) was awarded to

Barbara Markell Cooper,
"For service to pedigree dog breeding through The Working Kelpie Council of Australia (Inc) and its promotion of the registration of dogs and encouragement of breeding with recognised working animals to ensure purity of the line".

The OAM was awarded to the late

William R Polley
"For service to canine breeding and showing through the Royal Canine Council of New South Wales and The Fox Terrier Club".

Bill's daughter, Marcelle Genova, wrote to us ... My father, William Robert Polley (Bill) of Ideal Kennels showed his first Fox Terrier at the Parramatta Dog Show in September 1924. He bred his first champion in 1927 and joined the Fox Terrier Club of NSW in 1927 and was subsequently elected President and Chairman of the Club for 20 years and was made an Honorary Life Member.

He passed the Judges Examination for Fox Terriers, going on to judge 58 Fox Terriers at Ryde District Kennel Club in 1929 when he was only 15 years old. Dad became an All Breeds Dog judge in 1937 until he retired in 1947 from judging All Breeds and then judged all Terriers only, including at many Specialties, He was a Steward at the Royal Easter Shows for 18 years and judged the Terriers at the Royal Easter Show in 1965. He was a Panel Member of 4 Committees on the RAS Kennel Club of NSW (now the Royal NSW Canine Council) from its inception and was made an Honorary Life Member. Dad was instrumental in creating the lectures for Judges Training Classes and Examinations for candidates to become judges for all breeds of dogs. These lectures are still being used today as part of the RNSWCC's programme. He also wrote the history of all the dog Controlling Bodies of NSW from 1838 when the first one was formed, including many articles written for overseas magazines and as well as a hardcover handbook called the "Fox Terrier" covering all aspects of the Standard of the breed. He retired from judging in 1990 when he was 77 years old and was 89 years old in May last year. Sadly he passed away soon after that. However probably his greatest achievement was as a breeder. Dad bred 300 in his small kennel of 6 Fox Terriers in his backyard in Leichhardt, and 60 became

champions. The most outstanding dog bred and shown by him was Grand Champion Jerry Ideal, whose show record has never been equalled or beaten by any breed of dog in Australia.

Best Exhibit in Show
All Breeds Sydney Royal 1933
Best Exhibit in Show
All Breeds Sydney Royal 1934
Best Reserve
Challenge Winner All Breeds Sydney Royal 1935
Challenge Winning Fox Terrier Dog Sydney Royal 1939
Best Exhibit in Show
All Breeds and Specialty Shows 68 times,
He spent 61 years judging and serving the community in the dog world, a truly remarkable service. I spent several years preparing the nomination for him to receive the AOM for his distinguished service to the dog world, and was delighted when I was advised it would be granted, albeit posthumously. I would also like to thank those people who were prepared to assist this nomination in the capacity of referees and I know that Dad would have been proud indeed and grateful to you for your friendship and support. My brother Robert and I would like to invite any of Bill's old friends to help celebrate with us by attending our house towards the end of April to browse through Bill's memorabilia from as far back as 1932.

Please telephone me at 0418 825 190 or 02 9418 8993 for further details and a confirmed date.

Tragically we know of two dogs who were lost in the Canberra fires when taken to their veterinary clinic for a checkup and which burned down shortly after without any time to save the dogs. Margaret Franze lost both her record breaking Ch Le Chevalier Veronique and her daughter Ch Le Chevalier Kissin Cousin. Veronique was the first Grand Champion in the breed, BOB four times at Melbourn Royal, had a total of 11 Royal Challenges, 100 x 25 point CCs and was a multi BIS winner. More importantly perhaps, she was a fantastic producer, including seven champions of which four were in one litter, and her progeny have bred on all over the world.

Her daughter Kissin Cousin was widely regarded as the most outstanding Tricolour most people had been privileged to see. She too was a

multi BIS Specialty and Royal Challenge winner and a wonderful producer, with also four champions in one litter and she too her invaluable genes spread all over the world.

We are sure Margaret's friends and all those who were fans of these two outstanding Cavaliers will join us in sending her their sincere sympathy.



BUSHFIRES BREAK OUT AGAIN

After the terrible fires of late December in NSW, it was the turn of many other places on Australia's Eastern seaboard to burn, including areas of the ACT and Tasmania, the North East of Victoria, and the North East and North West of NSW. Many fires still exist although they have mainly now been contained. In the ACT in particular losses were shocking, with 400 homes burned down, the almost total destruction of the world famous Mt Stromlow Observatory, and untold stock losses. These photos were taken by a WA tourist at 10am, 2.30pm and 3pm on Saturday 18.01.03.

On 23.01.03 Lisa Barranger from Canberra wrote .."I have pics of the afternoon at our place on the camera, there were times when we could barely see from the house to the machinery shed (30 metres - 90 feet). All quiet here but the weekend is building to another critical day on Sunday with temperatures up around 39C (103F) and 70km NW winds". For some more reports from dog folk, see page 28

Would you please advise your readers that the fantastic photo in the story about The Dane That Dog Sleds in the November issue should have been credited to

Animaleyes Photography

My sincere apologies Carolyn Vincent.

World Dog Show 2003

The ban on legally cropped or docked dogs being exhibited at this show has been lifted in response to the public outcry from breeders, exhibitors, officials, sponsors and legal proceedings instigated by the VDH (German Kennel Club).

Prior to the lifting of the ban, the VDH had issued the following statement:

In accordance with the "Tierschutz-Hundeverordnung" (animal protection dog regulations) from the 1st May 2002 dogs living in Germany or outside will be banned from participating at dog shows:

1. Ears cropped after the 01.01.1987.
2. Tail docked after 01.06.1998 (exception: dogs used for hunting in accordance with German law for the protection of animals).

In the VDH's opinion it is not acceptable that numerous exhibitors with legally cropped or docked dogs would have been blocked from participating in the World Dog Show 2003.

If we should receive a legally effective judgement that legally cropped or docked foreign dogs (no cropping or docking ban in the respective country) can participate, the affected dog owners will naturally receive the opportunity to register their dogs for a nominal registration fee (EUR 60.00/1st closing date for entries 29 January) before the final closing date for entries on 2 April 2003.