

The Bearded Collie Breed Liaison Committee



BEARDED COLLIE 'BUDDY' SCHEME

1 Introduction

Following the feedback received from the JBLC regional Workshops there have been a number of comments made about the following:

- The need to ensure the breed has a regular supply of new owners and repeat owners and that information should be easily available to anyone with an interest in the breed from those with knowledge and experience of the breed
- New owners should be provided with help and support with rearing, training and coat care from those with knowledge and experience
- People with interest in Showing/Obedience/Agility or other activities should be able to access support and advice from those with knowledge and experience
- People considering breeding should be able to access help and advice about mating, whelping and the care of puppies.

It was recognised that although there was already a support network in place provided by Breeders and the participation of six Bearded Collie Clubs, a scheme to provide further support and encouragement could be considered. The JBLC have been impressed by other dog Clubs that appear to successfully provide a similar support service and with that in mind we have progressed with the JBLC Buddy Scheme.

Based on feedback received, it is apparent that there is a need to find and encourage new people into the breed who will hopefully become the future owners, breeders and ambassadors for the Bearded Collie.

It is also recognised that it is easy to put people off a breed if new owners are not welcomed and supported at events and unfortunately in the Show world, competitiveness can take over and newcomers can be made to feel unwelcome and out of their depth. We are committed to working to support Beardie owners and Breeders and with the scheme in place, hope we can help to continue to provide a friendly welcoming reception to the breed, the Breed Clubs and Bearded Collie events.

2. Buddy V Breeder

As part of the debate regarding a Buddy Scheme, it has been questioned by some that they see the Breeder as being the person who should be providing help and support. Whilst it is acknowledged that the Breeder of the dog should be providing help and support to any new owner there are some factors that prevent this:

- The breeder lives some distance from the owner and/or doesn't know about resources in that area e.g. local Ringcraft class and training clubs
- Belief from the owner that the Breeder will get fed up of them calling and/or will think they are "stupid"
- Breeder/owner disagreements e.g. "I only sold it as a pet and don't want it shown", "lifting of endorsements", "it's a coated breed you shouldn't clip it"
- Puppy is imported so limited direct help available from Breeder

The other dimension is about providing information about the breed to people who are thinking about possibly owning a Beardie but want more details about what they are like to live with and care for.

3. What is a Buddy?

A 'Buddy' will be a volunteer who, in the opinion of the Bearded Collie Clubs has knowledge and experience of the Breed and agrees to act as a contact point for a specific region of the country. They will be more than happy to take calls from anyone with an interest in the breed or new owners of the breed who may want help and advice and may not want to bother the breeder.

A Buddy will be a Member of at least one of the Bearded Collie Clubs and therefore abiding by that Clubs Code of Ethics.

Advice can be on any number of issues and if they can not provide advice or assistance they will look to find a relevant person or resource for them in their area.

Issues may be about the breed from someone thinking of having a Bearded Collie, some may want information about the amount of exercise, grooming, training etc. They may want to show their Bearded Collie and need help and advice about what to do, how to present the dog etc.

It can be particularly important for people who are thinking about the breed and want further information and an opportunity to meet the breed at either a show or at a responsible owners premises.

For those seeking support with issues once they have a Beardie the 'Buddy' would be able to help co-ordinate and suggest other volunteers/Beardie owners in the region with specific knowledge or interest in their particular area, again examples could be Socialisation, Grooming, Dog Training Clubs, someone to meet up with at Open Shows or dog events in their area.

4 Find a local Buddy

As the scheme develops you will be able to source links to 'Find a Buddy', these will be available on Club websites and the JBLC page on BCX. The plan is to also increase the number of 'Buddies' across the country. Details of the scheme and 'Buddy' contacts will also be made available in Club publications. The Buddies listed below have volunteered initially to help get the scheme up and running.

If you are interested or are able to provide any support to the 'Buddy' in your area, please contact your Club JBLC Representative.

Area	Buddy Contact Details
Scotland	Lizzie Gault (Renfrewshire) - lochbarra@btinternet.com , Tel: 01505-842462 Jan Jemmett (East Lothian) - janatwestbere@gmail.com , Tel: 01875-340910
North East	Yvonne Fox (Co. Durham) - Y.Fox@bushbladesbeardies.co.uk , Tel: 01207-290036
Yorkshire	Sylvia Newton (N. Yorks) - sylvabrae@hotmail.com , Tel: 01609-882574
Cumbria	Elizabeth Ayrton (Cumbria) - elizabeth.ayrton@btinternet.com , Tel: 015395-61104
Midlands	Carol Charles/Graham Atkins (Derbys) - g.atkins06@tiscali.co.uk , Tel: 01283-762256 Kim Evans - (Leics) - kimbevans@talktalk.net , Tel: 01530-243413 Rachael Salter (Notts) - rachsALTER237@gmail.com , Tel: 07941-592713 Lesley Tomlinson (Derbys) - coalacre@btinternet.com , Tel: 01332-880793
Gloucs	Nicola Emmingham (Gloucs) - nicolajemm@hotmail.co.uk , Tel: 01594-860719
North Wales	Tony Burscough (Flintshire) - tony.burscough@btinternet.com , Tel: 01352-711964
South Wales	Paula Brooks (Monmouthshire) - fraglestone@btinternet.com , Tel: 01600-740694
South West	Jason Scott - (Devon) - Jason@jasonscott.co.uk , Tel: 01884-821201 Tony Bush (Somerset) - busha691@aol.com , Tel: 01935-508950
South East	Sarah Ritchie (Surrey) - sarah.j.ritchie@hotmail.co.uk , Tel: 01932-568391
East Anglia	Dave Marrant (Lincs) - mail@marrant.plus.com , Tel: 01754-882405

Contact Information:

JBLC Page on BCX – www.bcx-co-uk/jblc

The Bearded Collie Club – www.beardedcollieclub.co.uk

JBLC Representatives:

Paula Brooks (South Wales) – fraglestone@btinternet.com, Tel: 01600-740694

Nicola Emmingham (Gloucs) – nicolajemm@hotmail.co.uk, Tel: 01594-860719

Southern Counties Bearded Collie Club – www.scbcc.co.uk

JBLC Representatives:

Sarah Ritchie (Surrey) – sarah.j.ritchie@hotmail.co.uk, Tel: 01932-568391

Tony Bush (Somerset) – busha691@aol.com, Tel: 01935-508950

Bearded Collie Club of Scotland – www.beardedcollieclubofscotland.co.uk

JBLC Representatives:

Lizzie Gault (Renfrewshire) - lochbarra@btinternet.com, Tel: 01505-842462

Jan Jemmett (East Lothian) – janatwestbere@gmail.com, Tel: 01875-340910

Eastern Bearded Collie Association – www.easternbeardies.webs.com

JBLC Representatives:

Tony Burscough (Flintshire) – tony.burscough@btinternet.com, Tel: 01352-711964

Dave Marrant (Lincs) – mail@marrant.plus.com, Tel: 01754-882405

Midshires Bearded Collie Club – www.midshiresbeardedcollieclub.com

JBLC Representatives:

Kim Evans – (Leics) - kimmevans@talktalk.net, Tel: 01530-243413

Rachael Salter (Notts) – rachsALTER237@gmail.com, Tel:

North of England Bearded Collie Club – www.nebcol.co.uk

JBLC Representatives:

Sylvia Newton (N. Yorks) – sylvabrae@hotmail.com, Tel: 01609-882574

Lesley Tomlinson (Derbys) – coalacre@btinternet.com, Tel: 01332-880793