



THE BRITISH MANCHESTER TERRIER CLUB

Newsletter Autumn 2024

It is with great sadness that we start this Newsletter by paying tribute to two members who passed this Summer. Both contributed hugely to the running of the Club and fulfilled vital roles for the Club during their time in office and on the committee. Both dedicated their time and knowledge in different ways and indeed in different centuries, but both epitomised passion for the Manchester Terrier, their chosen breed, commitment, integrity and a wonderful ability to communicate with Club members.

Firstly, Dianne Church; a lady who was familiar to many in the Club today. A regular at Club Shows and Events and who is greatly missed by all who knew her:



“Our dear friend and fellow committee member Dianne Church passed on 19th September. Dianne joined the BMTC in 2016 when ‘Oakley’ (Rattustrap Charlie Brown) joined the family, and she soon became a familiar face at shows, making many new friends and having great success in the ring. About a year later a second MT joined the family – ‘Ember’ (Rattustrap Fade to Black), who also excelled in the show ring, amongst other successes winning the CC at Manchester Championship Dog Show in 2019.

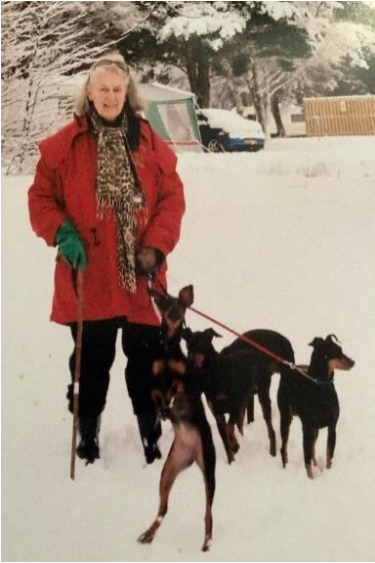
2019 was the year Dianne joined the BMTC committee, when she immediately volunteered to help produce the annual Yearbook with her great friend and breeder Estella, and also took on the Club Merchandise with husband Steeve. In Dianne and Steeve’s safe hands the selection of MT goods on offer were widened to include many new and popular items such as the decorative martingale collars.

Earlier this year, Dianne took up the reins of Assistant Secretary to Christy when she took on the role of Secretary, but between them they had agreed that this was going to be a joint venture, with both working together to split the workload between them.

Sadly, Dianne could not continue in this role, and although she had stepped down as Assistant Secretary, she remained a valued and highly respected member of the committee to the very end. One word Dianne used a lot was ‘Team’, and she most certainly was a team member. We will all miss her and send our love and sincere condolences to family Steeve, Jack and Rebecca.”

We thank Pauline Gore for her memories of Margaret Clowes (Churnet), a former Secretary and Vice President of the Club and co- author with Nerolie de Lavis-Trafford of ‘The Manchester Terrier’ first produced in 1997 and still the ‘go-to’ book on the breed today:

“I am honoured to be asked to write a few words about my dear friend Margaret Clowes who sadly passed away on 23rd September 2024. I posted the news on the BMTC website, and the responses said it all – a lovely lady, a great lady, knowledgeable, such an influence, helpful, doyen of the breed, force of nature. Margaret was all those things and many more. She worked so hard on behalf of the BMTC from making soup for functions to acting as Secretary; filling the shoes of Phil Margiotta was not an easy task! Margaret’s interest in Black and Tans began when she started her first job as a dental assistant. Her employer owned a standard dachshund, and it was love at first sight. Dachshunds at that time were not easy to source. However, passing a pet shop window she saw a litter of black and tan puppies in a box. She went home with one, only to find out later, after much research, she had a Manchester Terrier which she fondly referred to as Woofie Dog. The family were smitten and Margarets eldest daughter went on to buy a pedigree Manchester Terrier (Twiggy) who produced Ch Captain from Churnet, and the rest is history.



Margaret loved all dogs no matter what the breed. She had one of the first Salukis in the country, numerous Jack Russells and joint ownership of Keira her beloved Husky which provided Margaret with another interest - Husky racing in Aviemore where Margaret would act as Marshall, coming away each year with a Husky sweatshirt in various colours which were a staple in her wardrobe for camping trips.

Margaret was a very popular body at dog shows. She loved chatting to the stall holders and learning all she could about other breeds. Going around the showgrounds with her took quite a while – she loved to make new friends and chat to old ones. Everyone asked about her if she was missing.

My memories of times spent with Margaret are happy ones – she had a wicked sense of humour, was a superb cook and even made her own aprons by recycling sunbed covers!! She supported many dog charities and many folks who needed assistance with vet bills, always done in a discreet manner.

Showing dogs was a hobby which she so enjoyed but win or lose Margaret came away with a smile on her face looking forward to the next trip away in her camper. Rest in peace Margaret and thank you for your friendship and love given freely to all who had the pleasure of knowing her.”

Two valued committee members have stepped down this summer due to personal reasons, and we are extremely grateful for all they have done for the Club. They are Sonia Owczarek, who up until recently held the fort in the role of Club Secretary, and Bev O’Neill, a former Vice Chair.

Bev has also decided to relinquish the role of BMTC Re-Homing Officer. Over the last 35 years many members have had cause to thank Bev for her help, the author of this newsletter included – from both sides of the equation. Bev didn’t just find the right fit for every single dog; she even volunteered her family to be (superb) holding kennels if needed! Thank you, Bev, and enjoy your retirement holding on to those not-so metaphorical reins! We are pleased to confirm that Nigel Keates and Elaine House have stepped up to the role

of BMTC Welfare and Re-Homing Officers, and between them we continue in safe hands. Nigel has given us the following report:

“The BMTC would like to thank Bev O'Neill who following a number of years as BMTC Rehome and Welfare Officer has taken the decision to take some time out of the limelight and concentrate on new beginnings in beautiful rural Wales.

The rehoming of dogs whether owners are members of the BMTC or not, is predominantly conducted on our British Manchester Terrier Rehome Facebook page which is open to all Manchester Terrier owners and prospective owners. The right home is achieved by trying to match the best possible persons with the personality, traits and requirements of the specific dog.



On behalf of the BMTC we would like to thank all those who donate their valuable time and effort fundraising and raising awareness toward the welfare of our lovely breed without whom the BMTC would find rehoming and welfare support much more difficult. Rehoming & Welfare is just part of what your membership fee supports and something our club and its individual members should be truly proud of. The job of the Rehome Officer is to maintain the confidence of all parties who sometimes want to maintain anonymity from public glare as the decision to rehome is never an easy decision to make and the decision for doing so can be very personal. Our aim is to achieve the very best possible outcome for our dogs and for our re-homers to feel comfortable seeking assistance at the most difficult of times. During August 3 dogs were successfully rehomed.

If you are aware of a dog or owner in need of assistance, please contact Either Elaine or Nigel who will provide confidential advice and assistance to anyone who's Manchester needs help with rehoming or welfare issues. The picture is a recent re-home settling in.”

With Sonia and Bev stepping down, we had two vacancies on the committee. Two members had expressed a desire to do more for the Club, both of whom have skills that will contribute to the smooth running of the Club. They have therefore been co-opted onto the committee and we welcome Richard Earle (specialist subject IT) owned by Horace and Chantelle Swart, (specialist subject Admin) owned by Dexter. I promise that it is completely irrelevant that these two finished 1st and 2nd in the Terrier Racing at the 2023 Fun Weekend, owning a speedy dog is not an obligatory requisite to joining the committee. If you are willing to devote time and energy to the Club please do consider being put forward at the AGM next February.

On Saturday 12th October we ran a Breed Appreciation Day at Shenstone Village Hall for those interested in judging Manchester Terriers. All expenses for this day are covered by a very generous bequest from Nerolie de Lavis Trafford (Tyburn). This bequest was given to

the BMTC in order to facilitate the education of Manchester Terrier Judges so we are able to make this a free event for attendees.



We had 16 people booked in, of which 12 attended, and 11 took and passed the Multiple-Choice Exam. Each attendee was handed a welcome pack which included a copy of the recently updated booklet 'The Extended Breed Standard', and a buffet lunch was provided. Our main speakers were Paul Eardley (The Kennel Club Vice-Chairman) on The Breed Standard, the Breed Education Co-ordinator Gill Knight on Judging the Breed, and Ann Harrison on the History of the Breed. The feedback from the day was most encouraging, everyone said how much they enjoyed their day, both all-rounders and specialists alike. This event is run bi-annually, and we would love to see more members attending. If you are interested in judging please do

consider attending next time we run one. Even if you do not wish to take the Exam it will provide all the information you need to look at the Breed from a Judges viewpoint. It is well advertised both on the website, social media and in the Breed Notes.

Dates For Your Diary 2025:

Date 2025	Event	Location	Further Information
Saturday 22nd February	BMTC Championship Show (1)	Shenstone Village Hall WS14 0LT	Judge: Judy Thurlow (Erkenwyne)
Saturday 22nd February	AGM	Shenstone Village Hall WS14 0LT	Follows the Championship Show
Thursday 6th March	Crufts: Terrier Day	NEC B40 1NT	Judge: Martin Phillips
Sunday (tbc) April	St Georges Day Parade	Miles Platting, Manchester. M40 7AS	
Saturday/Sunday 19th & 20th July	The Fun Weekend	Drax Sports and YO8 8PJ Social Club. Selby.	
Sunday 20th July	Open Show	Drax Sports and YO8 8PJ Social Club. Selby.	Judge: Lesley Olbinson (Carapast)

Don't forget that Memberships are due on 31st December 2024! For further information please email Liz Jones on: manchester.terriers.membership@gmail.com

Please keep an eye on the Club's Facebook Page, Website and Lesley's Breed Notes in 'Our Dogs' for updates and other events that welcome Club Members such as Winter Mooches, Breed Stands that you can visit or join and other shows/events that may be of interest to you.