

The Bearded Collie Breed Liaison Committee



SEMINARS AND EVENTS 2016 - Breeder Regional Workshops

Are you concerned about the future of the Bearded Collie? Do you care about the breed and wish to have an influence in its future?

About the Workshops

Bearded Collie breeders and stud dog owners are facing greater challenges today than they did in the past. Decreasing litter registrations mirroring a decline in the popularity of the breed, and concern about progressive loss of genetic diversity and the level of auto-immune disease have led to calls to 'act before it is too late'. But what are the options? Is there a practical way of achieving a sustainable future for the breed which is compatible with pet ownership, breeders' interests and the health of the breed?

The JBLC Representatives along with support from individual Breed Club Committees are arranging workshops to provide breeders, stud dog owners and other Bearded Collie enthusiasts with a forum to meet, share their concerns, identify the issues and barriers to action, and discuss possible solutions.

The plan is to hold the workshops regionally to encourage as many people as possible to take part. A semi-structured approach will be used to give focus to the discussion and support a collaborative approach.

Who Should Attend?

The workshops are open to all breeders and stud dog owners, present or past, occasional or regular, as well as anyone with a significant interest in the long-term sustainability of the breed.

Workshop Aims

To provide a forum for attendees to meet, share issues and concerns, and identify effective ways of balancing breeders' interests and motivation and the action needed to secure long term sustainable breeding. All thoughts, ideas and information from these workshops will be taken forward to develop a strategy for the breed, in conjunction with best available external advice as appropriate.

Workshop Timetable:

- 9.45am** **Arrival**
- 10am** **Introduction - Morning Session 1:** 'Between a rock and a hard place?'
Identifying breeders concerns
Morning session 2: Getting to the bottom of the issues – what is really at the root of the problem?
Feedback from groups - identifying common concerns and any consensus on priorities
- 12.30pm** **Lunch Break** (light refreshments will be available)
- 1pm** **Afternoon Session 1:** Dealing with root causes – what options for action are there, and how can any barriers be reduced or removed?
Things to consider: **Popular Stud Dogs** – is it a case of ethics vs motivation, breed sustainability vs breeder success? **The Outcross Solution** – options and issues
Long-term Breed Prospects – do we need to agree on the future, or will Beardies get by without ('if you don't know where you want to go, it doesn't matter which direction you take')?.
- Afternoon Session 2:** Agreeing tangible workshop outcomes. Who, what and when
- 3.30pm** **Final summary/workshop close**

Our first workshop will be taking place on **Saturday 27th August 2016 at Brownshore Community Centre, Hobnock Road, Essington, Staffs, WV11 2RF**

Commencing at 10am and finishing at approx 4pm. Light refreshments will be available during the day.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME ALONG PLEASE CONTACT YVONNE FOX ON
Y.Fox@bushbladesbeardies.co.uk or 01207-290036 TO CONFIRM

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

(If you are unable to attend this workshop, the JBLC are planning to hold workshops later in the year to be held in the South, the North & Scotland)