

THE BASENJI CLUB OF NSW

1968-1993

The formative years of the Basenji Hound Club of New South Wales, under the leadership of Bill Chandler, saw the establishment of an October Annual Championship Show. The first was held at Strickland House, Vaucluse in 1969.

In the early 70's, the members decided that there were sufficient numbers of Basenjis for a Parade to be held, and so the pattern of two major events, six months apart, was set. Regular race meetings were also a part of the early Basenji Club programme.

Current Basenjis exhibitors owe a vote of thanks to the Club members of the early 1970's. When qualifications were imposed on Sydney Royal entries, the Club wrote to the Royal Agricultural Society pointing out that "all Basenji pups are whelped around June or July of each year and consequently are all competing for two or, at the most, three months to gain a place award". The request for exemption from qualifying was granted, starting from the 1972 Royal.

Present members of the Club may not be aware that in 1970, the Club successfully lobbied for the removal from exhibition at Taronga Park Zoo of two Basenjis, which had been "donated" to the prior to the formation of the Club. These dogs were not allowed to leave the precinct of the Zoo, since it is a quarantine area, but they were moved into the private area around the caretaker's house.

While Alan Hunt was President, the principle of prestige shows with overseas judges was established. For such a small and relatively new club, this was a major decision. At that time overseas judges at Specialty Shows were a rare occurrence.

Over the past twenty five years, the Club has worked hard and has been rewarded with top class events and large entries at its annual championship show.

Exhibitors have travelled from all over Australia to be judged by world famous breeders and judges including the late

Veronica Tudor-Williams (of the Congo) of the UK in 1975 and 1978, Jayne Stringer (Horsley) of the UK in 1973, Dawn Clark (Clendon) of NZ in 1974, the late Bobby James of the UK in 1977, Bunty Bowers (Domewood) of the UK in 1980, Margaret Christy-Davies (Azenda) of the UK in 1984, Damara Bolte (Reveille) of the USA in 1985 and Mirrie Cardew (St Erme) of the UK in 1990.

The early shows in the late 70's and early 80's were very exciting with large entries and even a world record for that time of 200 for Veronica Tudor-Williams in 1978. During that period, the Basenji Club of Victoria was very strong and supported New South Wales generously. Lately our major support has come from Queensland. However, the present economic situation makes it very difficult for any Club to attract the large entries of those early shows.

These shows put a considerable strain on the Club resources since the entry fees could not cover the expense of an overseas judge and the much admired trophies which were on offer each year. The Basenji Club of New South Wales owes a great deal to John Du Toit who, over many years, first as the originator of the 100 Club, and later as either President or Finance Chairman, has put the Club in the very sound financial position it enjoys today.

Over the years, Basenji enthusiasts have always taken every opportunity to promote the breed. The Club participated in the PAL International breed display in 1970. This consisted of a moving tableau in costume.

Compared with the organisation involved in this venture, the Breed Stalls at the Spring Show were a very easy task. It is a tribute to the cooperation of the members and their children that our imaginative Breed Stalls were always in contention for the prizes and much envied by other breed clubs.

In conjunction with the Basenji Club of Victoria, a pedigree issue was published in 1976. Recognising the value of this publication, the Basenji Club of New South Wales produced two more books in 1982 and 1989.

In 1985, at the initiative of the then president, Ross Eldred, the 1st National Basenji Specialty and 1st International Conference was staged. Exhibitors from many states in Australia and speakers and enthusiasts from overseas attended this important milestone in the history of the breed and the Club.

In 1989, the members, guided by the President, John Forbes, decided to take the important step of becoming incorporated. This process took some time and Len Johnston was in the chair when, on 13th February, 1991, the Basenji Hound Club of New South Wales became the Basenji Club of New South Wales Incorporated.

It has been a great 25 years. Our breed has advanced in quality and temperament. This would not have been possible without the support of the Basenji Club and the work of its members.

Possibly the most important feature of the Club is that it has been a happy Club, where members can compete vigorously, enjoy their wins, suffer their losses, congratulate their opposition and still enjoy the company of other members. *(written by the late Lauris Hunt a foundation member of the Club)*

TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF OFFICE BEARERS

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer
1968/69	Mr W Chandler	Mrs S Neal	Mr A Hunt
1969/70	Mr W Chandler	Mr K Barker	Mr T Bycroft
		Mrs G Theoharris	Mr K Jordan
1970/71	Mr W Chandler	Mrs E Sinclair	Miss M Winsler
			Mrs N Anderson
1971/72	Mr A Hunt	Mrs E Sinclair	Mr W Chandler
			Mrs A Kirkness
1972/73	Mr A Hunt	Mrs J Gordon	Mrs A Kirkness
1973/74	Mr A Hunt	Mrs D Kennedy	Mrs M Dymock
1974/75	Mr A Hunt	Mrs S Parkinson	Mrs M Dymock
1975/76	Mr A Hunt	Mrs S Parkinson	Mrs M Dymock
1976/77	Mr A Hunt	Mrs K Eldred	Mrs M Dymock
1977/78	Mr A Hunt	Mrs K Eldred	Mrs M Dymock
1978/79	Mr A Hunt	Mrs M Messer	Mrs L Hunt
1979/80	Mr J Du Toit	Mrs M Messer	Mrs M Dymock
1980/81	Mr J Du Toit	Mrs M Messer	Miss L Church
			Mrs M Dymock
1981/82	Mr J Du Toit	Mrs M Messer	Mr J Forbes
1982/83	Mr R Eldred	Mrs M Messer	Mr J Forbes
1983/84	Mr R Eldred	Mrs M Messer	Mr J Forbes
1984/85	Mr R Eldred	Mrs M Messer	Mr J Forbes
1985/86	Mr R Eldred	Mrs M Messer	Mr J Forbes
1986/87	Mr J Du Toit	Mrs H Keenan	Mrs K Eldred
1987/88	Mr J Dutoit	Miss H Church	Mrs J Axam
1988/89	Mr J Forbes	Mrs V Innes	Mrs J Axam
			Mrs L Hunt
1989/90	Mr J Forbes	Mr T Robb	Mrs L Hunt
1990/91	Mr L Johnston	Mr T Robb	Mrs L Hunt
1991/92	Mr L Johnston	Mr T Robb	Mrs L Hunt
1992/93	Mr L Johnston	Mr T Robb	Mrs L Hunt

FOUNDATION MEMBERS
Membership list for 1968~1969

(*Attended Meeting 17th July, 1968)

(# Attended Meeting 5th September, 1968)

Mr F Anderson	Mrs M Johnson
Mrs N Anderson	Mr K Jordan #
Mr R Barker	Mrs M Jordan #
Mrs L Barker	Mrs Y King
Miss C Barker	Mr P Kyle #
Mr P Blease * #	Mrs P Kyle #
Mrs L Blease * #	Miss C Kyle #
Mrs E Bronson	Mr N Lindsay *
Mr J Brownlee	Mrs J Lindsay *
Mrs H Brownlee #	Miss R Lindsay * #
Mr Boulton	Mr P McColdrick
Mrs Boulton	Mrs P McGoldrick #
Mr T Bycroft * #	Mr P May
Mrs L Bycroft * #	Mrs J Muggeridge
Mr T Caddey	Mr P Neal * #
Mrs J Caddey	Mrs S Neal * #
Mr W Chandler * #	Mrs B Picard
Mrs W Chandler #	Miss C Price
Miss M Chandler	Mr D Rath
Mrs D Clark	Mr P Seddon
Mrs J Coates	Mrs J Seddon
Miss C Coates	Mr K Sinclair
Mrs S Dowty #	Mrs E Sinclair
Mr F Dymock * #	Mr D Stroud * #
Mrs M Dymock * #	Mrs H Stroud #
Mr C Fowler	Miss R Stroud #
Mrs Fowler	Mrs G Theoharris #
Mr P Cotch	Master P Theoharris
Mrs P Gotch #	Miss K Theoharris
Mrs O Gowlands	Mr P Warby
Mr K Grasnick	Miss Y West * #
Mr R Harper	Miss M Winser
Mr A Hunt*#	
Mrs L Hunt * #	