

Chairman's Report 2008/2009

The 2008 Russian Blue Show at Abingdon on October 4th was a great success due to the hard work of Marlene Buckeridge aided by Amanda Roberts and Dot Thompson. We are all very grateful to them and appreciate that to produce such an event calls for organisation and planning throughout the year.

On Show Day our President Trevor Turner and his wife Jean were, as usual, towers of strength. Kate Kaye and Jan Kaye aided by Judith Noble and Charles Biggie ran the table. Rosemary coordinated Best in Show. Sarah Williams-Elliss and Jen Lacey ran the Cup Table. Clare Bandy, Sue Young and Martine Mapes organised the Rosettes. Judith Armstrong and Ann Murray-Brooks ran the Club Table. Kate Kaye gave a talk on the Russian Blue from the Judge's point of view. Pat and David Uphill did a roaring trade at the Food Table as did Chris and Pete on the Raffle. Peter and Dawn Howe organised and ran the Bottle Stall. Laurie Curtis, Isobelle and Marina ran "William" and a sale of Children's books. The Plant Stall was very successfully run by Julia Watling and the Cat Toy Stall by Mark Roberts. Lynn Robinson and Martine Mapes were much in evidence giving help before and during the Show. Lynn dressed as a "cat" and Amanda in "Russian Dress" went around the town to advertise the show. Miggie Ravenscroft slaved in the kitchen to keep everyone's energy levels high. She was helped by Keith Thompson.

So from this list of people - and some I have not mentioned - you can see how many were a very necessary part of the infrastructure of the show and so were several people who gave generous financial donations.

Your Committee has worked continually throughout the year and I am very grateful for all their support. Marlene Buckeridge is a wonderful Vice Chairman. Her knowledge of the Cat Fancy is enormous and her meticulous attention to detail remarkable. Val Anderson keeps our finances in good order and we appreciate that this is a very difficult job. Judith Armstrong, as Secretary, is the Club's "Face to the Public". We are very lucky in our Officers, and on your behalf, I thank them.

The RBBA meets four times a year. Three of these meetings are preceded by BAC meetings. This saves travelling time and expenses.

Diana Harper has spent much time and energy, as Chairman of the BAC, over the past five years and we are extremely grateful to her for her guidance and impartial judgement. She retired as Chairman of the BAC at the last Electoral Meeting in November 2008 and Maria Chapman has taken over from her. Marlene Buckeridge remains as Secretary to the BAC and Kate Kaye as Treasurer to the BAC.

We congratulate Helen Marriott-Power and Maria Chapman on becoming Full Russian Judges. Jean Clare, Steve Parkin, Susan Luxford-Watts and Steve Crow are Probationer Judges.

Keith Anderson has become Editor of Russian Tails once more, and we wish him luck in this venture. We thank Bob Thompson for all his help in the past.

Since Jenny Fleming took over as Welfare Coordinator she has already solved difficulties for several Russian Blues and we wish her well with this difficult task and thank her for taking it on. Again, we send many thanks and good wishes to her predecessor Pat Uphill.

Rosemary Solman remains as Kitten Registrar and we thank her for all her hard work.

It is impossible to mention all the people who keep the RBBA afloat. It is an organisation well worth much effort and I appeal to young members to take over from us in the future and to ensure the well being and preservation of our Glorious Russian Blue Cats - the **point** of all this.

Our next show is at Abingdon on October 3rd, and I look forward to seeing you then.

Jill Jackson
Chairman RBBA
18.2.09

