

Kennel Club Chairman Report

In January of this year I was honoured to be elected as Chairman of the Obedience Liaison Council. I have been on the Council for over 20 years as a representative for the South East Region. I have also had the honour of being on the Sub-Committee and many other Working Parties within the Kennel Club.

The sport has been a passion of mine since i was a child. Over the years I have seen many changes, some for the good and others not so. With the other members of the Council I hope we can progress the sport forward in a productive manner for all.

To our outgoing Chairman Mr Steve Rutter, I would like to thank him personally for his work on Council which I hope he will continue for many years to come.

The Obedience Council has a great deal of work to do in its coming term of office and as such we have created a Working Party to assist in this workload. The Working Party consists of myself, Lilian Turner (Vice Chairman of the Council) , Peter Lubbi, Michael McCartney and Fran Godfrey. The Working Party is tasked with progressing the Five Year Strategy for the long term development of the sport and the creation of new and progressive ideas for Council to deliberate upon.

With this in mind, prior to the Working Party's first meeting, I held meetings with Obedience Show Secretaries, and have met with representatives of the Young Kennel Club and Good Citizens departments at the Kennel Club to enable a better line of communication.

The Working Party has now met and has placed some items on the agenda for Council to look at in July. We have already identified areas for progression, such as a person from our Council Members to liaise with the Young Kennel Club to assist in simple tasks such as finding judges for shows, and identifying shows that are able to hold Young Kennel Club events.

The Working Party will have a further meeting this year which is due to be held in the summer. It is expected that there will be further research enabling us to present further items to Council in January.

It promises to be an exciting 3 years for me as Chairman. I will endeavour to make regular reports as we progress.

Robert Harlow (Chairman)