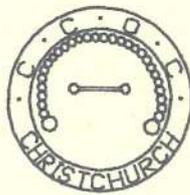


CLUB COPY

THE FIRST 30 YEARS



COMPILED AND PRINTED BY ZANE COLVILLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writer wishes to thank the following for their help and assistance with the preparation of this book. Without the willingness of these people to convey their knowledge to me, this publication may never have been born.

*Mr B.H. Adcock, Mr F.O. Campbell, Mrs G.M. Campbell, Mr D.J. Fifield,
Mr A.H. Marker, Mrs L.D. Marker and Miss J.C.M. Wiffen.*

I would also like to thank the President and Committee of the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club for their permission to use the club's official minutes and photographs which have been included in whole or in part in this book.

First published 1976
Second revised edition 1988

Canterbury Canine Obedience Club (Inc)
Marylands Reserve
Birmingham Drive
Christchurch

The contents of this book are the property of the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club (Inc). Portions of this book may be reproduced by other organisations provided prior written permission has been granted by the Committee of the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club (Inc).

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
1 The Dawn of an Age	5
2 A Club is Born	17
3 The Beginning of an Era	28
4 The End of an Era	39
5 A Club on the Move	50

Appendices

1 Club Presidents	58
2 Club Life Members	59
3 Club Champions	60

PHOTOGRAPHS

	Page
Clubhouse and training grounds at Marylands Reserve	front cover
A lighter moment at the first National Dog Obedience Assembly	13
The winning team	15
The Deans Avenue grounds	22
The Sit Stay Exercise at Deans Avenue	23
On parade at Deans Avenue	24
The training grounds and clubhouse at 82 Lincoln Road	34
The training grounds at 82 Lincoln Road were floodlit in 1973	36
View of 82 Lincoln Road with ticket box and implement shed	37
The Wairakei Reserve	44
The Marylands Reserve at Birmingham Drive	47
The site of the clubhouse with concrete slab base poured	52
The clubhouse starts to rise above ground level	52
Concrete blockwork complete and aluminium joinery installed	53
The basic shell of the clubhouse is complete	53
An aerial view of the finished clubhouse	54
A view of the clubhouse portion of the training grounds	55
A typical training day at Marylands Reserve	56

CHAPTER 1

THE DAWN OF AN AGE

*" One word must always mean one act or object for your dog and rigid consistency must always be adhered to in all your dealings with him " -
Colleen M. Cooper*

The history of the dog obedience movement in New Zealand extends over a longer period of time than most people would believe, although this challenging pastime has only developed into the organisation which we know today in comparatively recent times. However, since its inception, it has continued to grow from strength to strength. The dog obedience movement has grown to such an extent that it can now be sub-divided into three distinct sections: competitive obedience tests, working trials and agility events. Each of these three sections is briefly discussed below.

Competitive obedience tests can be further sub-divided into ribbon trials, open trials and championship tests, each representing a higher level of attainment. This area of dog obedience consists of five separate tests: Special Beginners, Novice, Test A, Test B and Test C, each of which become progressively more demanding. Challenge certificates may be awarded in championship Test C to the winner and runner-up, provided each dog does not lose more than 10 points out of a possible 300 points allocated to this test. A dog which obtains three challenge certificates (one of which must be an outright win) under three different judges, qualifies for the coveted title of New Zealand Obedience Champion. The tests are conducted in a competitive environment where precision work is essential.

Working trials consist of four separate trials also of increasing degree of difficulty. Companion Dog Trials qualify the handler and dog to progress to genuine working dog trials. Firstly, Utility Dog Trials, secondly Working Dog Trials and finally, Tracking Dog Trials where the dog must complete three tracks between 15 minutes and 3 hours old, over varying distances and

terrain. A dog which qualifies each of the working trials twice with 90% or more of the points allocated to each trial under three different judges, qualifies for the title, New Zealand Working Trials Champion. In trialling, the dog's ability to work over differing terrain and conditions is of paramount importance.

The agility event consists of handler and dog negotiating a prescribed obstacle course against a clock, with penalties for faults and can be both exciting and entertaining. Agility events are conducted at four different levels depending on the expertise and experience of the dog. Obstacles include hurdles, ramps, tunnels, seesaws etc arranged in a course not unlike those seen at horse show jumping events.

Dog obedience tests and trials for German Shepherds (Alsation Shepherd Dogs, as they were then known) had been conducted in New Zealand since the late 1920's. These tests and trials were conducted by the New Zealand Council of Alsation Clubs under the general sanction of the New Zealand Kennel Club. The Council of Alsation Clubs was permitted to issue competitors with its own certificates which ultimately lead to the title "Companion Dog Champion".

However, by the mid 1930's, the Council of Alsation Clubs had declined into recess which left the individual Alsation clubs to fight amongst themselves for dominance and recognition by the New Zealand Kennel Club. This situation continued, although interrupted by the war years, until 1950 when the New Zealand Kennel Club granted recognition to the National Council for Shepherd Dog Control. In 1952 a further division occurred within the ranks of the German Shepherd supporters and once again the individual clubs wrestled with each other for power and control. By the mid 1950's interest in the training of German Shepherds for obedience trials had waned.

Prior to 1955 some enthusiasm had been shown for dog obedience work in New Zealand. However, this interest was largely restricted to one particular breed, the German Shepherd. The New Zealand Kennel Club, as a result, had made provision within its rules and regulations for the conduct of dog obedience trials specifically for German Shepherds.

However, prior to this, articles occasionally appeared in dog club newsletters and journals. In 1949, two articles specifically related to dog training, were published in the New Zealand Kennel Gazette. The first, entitled "Training the Alsation", by Mr R. Lewis, discussed dog training

techniques related to the German Shepherd breed. The second article was related to a lecture which had been given by a Mr G. Jackson and explained the basic principles of obedience training for dogs.

The earliest report of dog obedience for all breeds of dog appeared in April 1949 when a group of dog training enthusiasts joined together to form the Auckland All Breeds Dog Training Club. However, acceptance by the dog fraternity was not easy to come by and although the New Zealand Kennel Club wished the new club success, it did not provide official recognition of the club or its activities. This club gradually lost support, partially through the lack of New Zealand Kennel Club recognition of its work, and as interest waned, it was decided by members that the club should go into recess.

In September 1954, an article appeared in the Marlborough Express concerning dog training in Blenheim. The article reported that the training was conducted by a Mr R. MacGregor. Training classes were held every week and great interest was shown by the local residents. However, after a period of time, interest waned and eventually the activity lapsed through a lack of support.

In April 1955, a radio interview on training dogs was broadcast in the Auckland region by Radio New Zealand (then known as the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation). The result of this interview was the bringing together of a small group of people who ultimately formed the first dog obedience club for all breeds in New Zealand. Mr and Mrs G. C. Randall, having recently arrived in New Zealand from England, headed this movement. Together they instructed numerous dog handlers at several Auckland venues. Later in the same year, the All Breeds Dog Training Club was formed in Auckland and officially recognised by the New Zealand Kennel Club.

On 11 February 1956, the Executive Council of the New Zealand Kennel Club officially adopted a set of regulations for dog obedience tests which were applicable to all breeds of dog. The new regulations were designed so as to closely follow along the lines of instruction which had already been given to handlers by dog training clubs and enthusiasts. The new regulations were published in March 1956 in the "New Zealand Dog World", the predecessor of the present "New Zealand Kennel Gazette" and duplicated the rules in force at that time in England.

During the next few years the dog obedience movement continued to

expand with clubs being formed in many parts of the country. In September 1958, the New Zealand Kennel Club official register of recognised dog obedience clubs, comprised the five clubs which appear below:

- . *All Breeds Dog Training Club*
- . *Canterbury All Breeds Obedience Club*
- . *Dunedin Canine Obedience Training Club*
- . *Hutt Valley Kennel Club*
- . *Wellington District German Shepherd Dog Club*

Concern began to be expressed regarding the possibility of a lack of conformity in the training of handlers and dogs. With the number of dog training clubs starting to increase rapidly and no central organisation established to co-ordinate that growth, the possibility of the development of differing standards, instructions and methods was very real. The result was the establishment of an unofficial committee within the framework of the New Zealand Kennel Club. On 13 June 1958, Mrs C.M. Cooper, Mr G. Randall, Mr C. Wilson and Mr H.S. Wilson, all of whom were actively involved in the dog training movement within New Zealand, met at the New Zealand Kennel Club headquarters, then located at Webb Street in Wellington and drew up a set of regulations for the control of dog obedience tests. These regulations (although since greatly modified) form the basis of the dog obedience regulations under which the training of dogs is conducted today.

The committee did not meet often due to the difficulties with respect to travel, the fact that no reimbursement of expenses was provided for and problems with the arrangement of suitable meeting dates. However a large volume of work still had to be done, therefore, all the existing clubs of the period unanimously agreed to the formation of an obedience association within the framework of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

On 20 June 1959, at the Annual General Conference of delegates to the New Zealand Kennel Club held in Wellington, an Obedience Sub-Committee was officially formed. Mr M.K. McDermott, then president of the New Zealand Kennel Club, stated that dog obedience should be given recognition and that the Executive Council had agreed to the establishment of an Obedience Sub-Committee to administer dog obedience matters in New Zealand. He stated further that the Obedience Sub-Committee would be permitted to promulgate, amend and delete their own regulations within the framework of the New Zealand Kennel Club rules and regulations subject to the approval of the Executive Council. Once the sub-committee had been officially formed and recognised by the New Zealand Kennel Club, six

members of the dog training fraternity were elected. Those elected were:

- . *Miss J. Brodie* (Hastings)
- . *Mr N.A. Brown* (Christchurch)
- . *Mrs C.M. Cooper* (Ashburton)
- . *Mr J. Duncan* (Lower Hutt)
- . *Mr C. Wilson* (Levin)
- . *Mr H.S. Wilson* (Auckland)

The sub-committee was intended to be an interim measure until a fully representative committee could be elected to administer to dog obedience matters. However the sub-committee functioned for five years before the situation was formalised and an elected committee representative of all New Zealand dog obedience clubs was formed.

The sub-committee was making steady progress although it was severely restricted by a critical shortage of finance. It was not until 1961 that the New Zealand Kennel Club Executive Council approved the sum of 50 Pounds (\$100) for the sub-committee. This sum of money greatly augmented the existing funds which had previously consisted of only a few Pounds, the proceeds of a few Companion Dog Trials. The sub-committee recast the obedience regulations, arranged Companion Dog Trials throughout the country on a regular basis, promulgated an official judges panel and arranged for the printing of obedience challenge certificates.

The first ever obedience challenge certificate was issued in April 1959. The judge, Mr H.S. Wilson, was officiating at the Cambridge Kennel Club's championship show.

In 1959 dog obedience was included at the National Dog Show for the first time ever. Unfortunately no tests were held as the invitation merely provided for a demonstration of dog obedience. However, in 1960, obedience tests were included for the first time. By 1962 dog obedience entries at the National Dog Show had already risen to 100, thus indicating the rapid growth in the dog obedience world.

The dog obedience movement continued to grow in both strength and numbers. In 1959 the Napier and North Taranaki Canine Obedience Clubs became registered with the New Zealand Kennel Club. By late 1959 dog obedience training existed in most parts of New Zealand although only 10 clubs or societies were actively engaged in obedience classes (7 in the North Island and 3 in the South Island). In 1960 the Makara and South

Canterbury Canine Obedience Clubs became registered with the New Zealand Kennel Club. Many All Breed clubs incorporated obedience tests with their championship shows as an added attraction. However, none of these All Breed clubs were active in the dog training movement. Unfortunately, along with the success of the formation of many new clubs there was also the disappointment when existing clubs, for one reason or another collapsed and went into recess e.g. Dunedin Canine Obedience Training Club.

The year 1960 saw a number of milestones in the history of the dog obedience movement. On 12 March, the first ever official Companion Dog Trials were held, at Auckland, Levin and Ashburton, under new regulations which had recently been promulgated by the Obedience Sub-committee. On 28 May of the same year the first ever Test C championship test conducted in the South Island was held at the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club's championship tests. In addition, at the National Dog Show, Mr G. Shaw with his Pembroke Welsh Corgi, OB.CH. Cymric the Colonel, who had been trained by the Hawkes Bay Obedience Club, became the first to achieve the coveted title of New Zealand Obedience Champion. This event was especially pleasing to the dog obedience fraternity as this was also the first time that dog obedience tests had been held at the National Dog Show.

The Wellington Canine Obedience Club was formed on 22 March 1961 although training classes had been held the previous month. Mrs C.M. Cooper was elected Patroness and Mr B. Surgeoner was elected the club's first senior instructor.

During the early 1960's a number of meetings were held by dog obedience enthusiasts in order to consolidate the gains which had been made and also to encourage the communication of ideas. A number of matters were discussed so that a degree of conformity could be achieved and judging penalties standardised. During the weekend 18-19 November 1961, members of the dog obedience clubs throughout the North Island gathered together in Rotorua to take part in the first inter-provincial meeting. The gathering was organised by the Rotorua Obedience Club for Dogs and approximately 70 people attended. The meeting commenced with an instructors' course followed by a ribbon trial and an instructors' class. On the Saturday evening a social was held which enabled participants to exchange ideas in a more relaxed environment. Meetings continued to be held on a reasonably regular basis, ultimately becoming a regular event. During the weekend 17-18 February 1962, a further meeting of interested

people was held at Palmerston North. This meeting was particularly important for the fact that it finalised proposals for the election of a representative committee on a zone basis. The gathering also proposed for the first time that expenses should be refunded to those committee members who attended meetings of the proposed Obedience Committee.

A further meeting of dog obedience enthusiasts was held in Hastings in 1963. Two of the more important items which were considered were: the proposed constitution of the Obedience Committee and also the relationship between the dog obedience section and the other sections of the dog movement within the New Zealand Kennel Club.

Meanwhile dog obedience enthusiasts had also held meetings in the South Island to discuss aspects of dog training and obedience in general. At Ashburton on 7 July 1962, Mrs C.M. Cooper called all instructors together to take part in a refresher course.

During these early years, the chairman of the Obedience Sub-committee was sometimes requested to attend the New Zealand Kennel Club's Executive Council meetings to report on the progress made on dog obedience matters. The Executive Council agreed that the dog obedience section should remain and develop within the framework of the New Zealand Kennel Club and under the overriding control of the Executive Council.

In 1963 the Obedience Sub-committee had amended the obedience regulations as they applied to the Special Beginners test. Up until the regulation change, this test had previously included an exercise which required the dog to retrieve an article supplied by the handler. The exercise was worth 25 points and the total test score was 100 points. The retrieve exercise was eliminated and the total test score reduced to 75 points as it is today. This decision was made in order to encourage more dog handlers to compete at obedience tests and trials. The retrieve, often being a difficult exercise to teach a dog, would no longer deter an interested handler from competing in elementary dog obedience competition.

In April 1963 the Executive Council decided to define the status of dog obedience in relation to the New Zealand Kennel Club as follows:

"Upon motion being made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that in order to legalise the present position of dog obedience in New Zealand and to enable the obedience organisation to develop within the framework

of the New Zealand Kennel Club, that the following remit be put forward by the Executive Council at the Annual Conference; 'The Executive Council shall have power to establish an elective committee for the direction of obedience within the rules and regulations of the Kennel Club and to delegate to such committee such of its powers as may be desirable for the day to day organisation and functioning of obedience in New Zealand.'

However, although the above remit was passed by the delegates at the Annual Conference held in June 1963, it was not until the following year that the Obedience Committee actually came into existence. At the New Zealand Kennel Club Executive Council meeting held on 2 - 3 February 1964, it was unanimously resolved to establish the Obedience Committee and constitution with effect from 3 February 1964. The existing Obedience Sub-Committee members continued as members of the new committee until fresh elections were held later in 1964. Mr T. R. Rushbridge, a member of the New Zealand Kennel Club Executive Council, was elected as that organisation's representative on the Obedience Committee until 1975 when the position was dis-established.

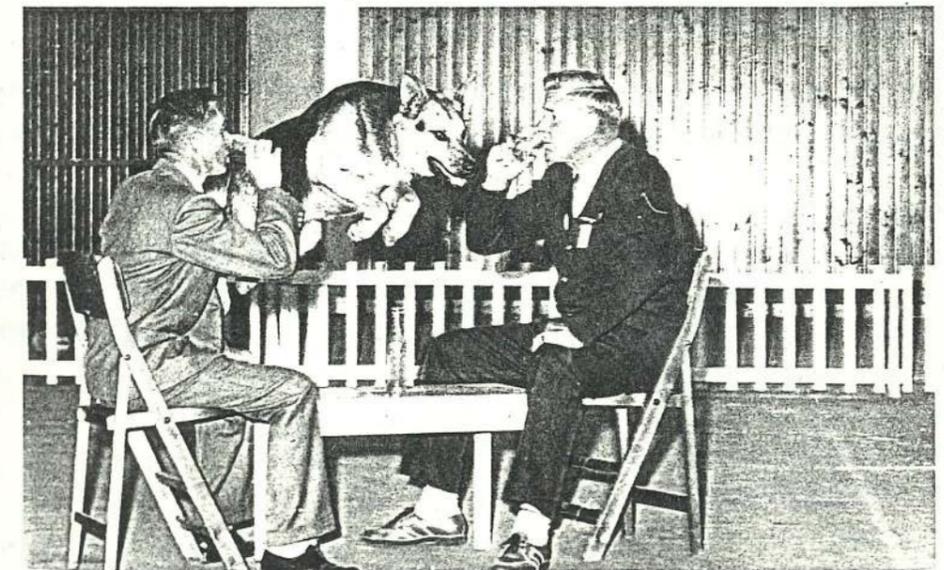
The dog obedience enthusiasts continued with their meetings which became a regular annual occurrence. However, during the weekend 5 - 7 June 1965 at Levin, a national dog obedience meeting was held which attracted obedience representatives from both North and South Islands. The meeting consisted of a demonstration of a Utility Dog Trial followed by the practise of tests Novice to Test C. Finally, an open forum for dog obedience matters was held. This gathering of dog obedience personnel from both islands was to herald the beginning of a totally new experience for dog obedience enthusiasts in the years to come.

Since the very beginning of the dog obedience movement in New Zealand, the owners of de-sexed or mixed breed dogs had been able to join dog training clubs and receive instruction regarding the training of their dog. However, due to a New Zealand Kennel Club rule which forbade the recognition of such dogs, they were barred from competition in official tests or trials. This situation lead to a number of clubs introducing graduation tests at which mock challenge certificates were available. Three such challenge certificates under three different judges would entitle the dog to be awarded the title, "club champion". The arguments both for and against the granting of recognition to de-sexed and mixed breed dogs had been raging for many years. Some argued that it would expand the membership base of the New Zealand Kennel Club, while others claimed that it would compromise the basic principles for which the Kennel Club

stood. However on 18 June 1966 at the Annual Conference of delegates to the New Zealand Kennel Club, a remit was finally passed which helped to completely change the whole pattern of dog obedience in New Zealand. The remit provided for the setting up of a separate second register for dogs not otherwise eligible for registration. The new register was created only for obedience dogs and allowed mixed breeds, spayed bitches and castrated dogs to be admitted to obedience competition. The remit had a stormy passage but was finally passed with a handsome 23 to 7 majority.

The year 1966 will be remembered for a long time by dog obedience people, for this was the year of the first ever National Dog Obedience Assembly. It was organised by Zone 4 (Canterbury, Nelson, Marlborough) and was held in Christchurch during Labour Weekend 22 - 24 October. A memorandum was forwarded to all dog obedience clubs early in 1966 by Mrs C.M. Cooper, who was at that time chairwoman of the New Zealand Kennel Club Obedience Committee. The following is an extract from that memorandum:

"As you know, it has been the practice each year to hold an obedience conference in order to gather together as many interested people as possible for an interchange of ideas for the betterment of obedience in general.



A lighter moment at the first National Dog Obedience Assembly.

This year, Zone 4 has undertaken the responsibility for the conference and has prepared a most comprehensive and somewhat ambitious programme for Labour Weekend 1966.

The gathering will include the following:

- . Obedience conference and discussion*
- . Guidance and practical work for instructors and judges*
- . an inter-zone competition*
- . C.D. and U.D. trials*

This is, as you can see, a most ambitious programme and one that will require the full support of the entire obedience fraternity in New Zealand.

To assure full representation in the inter-zone competition, which we hope will be an annual affair, subsidies are offered to all Zones to help with the expenses of sending full representative teams. These will be as follows:

- . Zone 1 - 30 Pounds*
- . Zone 2 - 20 Pounds*
- . Zone 3 - 10 Pounds*
- . Zone 4 - Nil*
- . Zone 5 - 6 Pounds*

This is the biggest venture ever attempted by obedience in New Zealand and its success is entirely dependent on your support. Don't let us down."

However, the dedicated workers who had spent many months of hard work were handsomely rewarded as the first National Dog Obedience Assembly was an outstanding success, even the weather was kind to the organisers when outdoor activities were in progress. The working committee comprised the following personnel:

- . Mrs C.M. Cooper (Obedience Committee Chairwoman)*
- . Mr R.H. Adcock (Committee Chairman)*
- . Mr R. Carson*
- . Mr J. Edmondson*
- . Mr F. Heaysman*
- . Mr S.G. Isherwood*
- . Mr T.R. Rushbridge*
- . Mr E.H. Schofield (Secretary/Treasurer)*

The winner of the inter-zone competition was appropriately enough Zone 4 which won Tests A, B and C and came second in Novice for a total of 19 points. Second place went to Zone 5 with 13 points and third place went to Zone 3 with 12 points. The National Dog Obedience Assembly has now become an annual event and has been held in a different zone each year. The year 1990 will see Zone 2 host the silver jubilee of this eagerly awaited annual event.



The winning team from left: Rudi Krauze, Peg Conning, Robin Thom and Sue Pierce.

In 1967, in Auckland, the first official Utility Dog Trial was held. Mr Rudi Krauze with his German Shepherd OB. Ch. Rex of Riga was the only qualifier. In March 1972, in Gisborne the first official Working Dog Trial was held. Mr Frank Riley was the judge but unfortunately there were no qualifiers.

The early 1970's brought further modifications to the conduct of obedience tests in New Zealand. In 1970 the regulations governing the scent discrimination exercise were amended. Previously any extra command given to the dog while it was still in the "scent area" was penalised by the deduction of 10 points for each command given. This regulation was amended so that no points would be awarded if any command was given to the dog while it was still in the "scent area". In 1971, on the recommendation of Zone 4, the regulations governing Test C

were amended by eliminating the Advanced Sit, Stand and Down exercise, worth 40 points and combining this with an extended heel free exercise including fast, slow and normal pace as well as stand, sit and down positions worth 60 points. The total points allocated to Test C were reduced from 320 to 300.

In 1975 the dog obedience fraternity took another giant step forward. At the Annual Conference of delegates to the New Zealand Kennel Club, the Executive Council was re-organised under a revised constitution which allowed one representative of the Obedience Committee onto the Council. Mr G. Randall, who was at that time chairman of the New Zealand Kennel Club Obedience Committee was duly elected to be the obedience representative. The New Zealand Kennel Club's Executive Council representative on the Obedience Committee was considered unnecessary and this position was abolished. Mr T.R. Rushbridge had held this position since the inception of the Obedience Committee in 1963. The following Obedience Committee chairmen have held the obedience representative's position on the New Zealand Kennel Club Executive Council:

- . Mr G. Randall
- . Mrs D. Watson
- . Mrs J. Mason
- . Mr Z. Colville
- . Mrs B. Cleator
- . Mr J. Muir

The period of time which has elapsed since 1975 has been a period of consolidation for the dog obedience world. Tracking dog trials have been introduced, as has a new award known as, "Working Trials Champion". In addition, a new and exciting departure from strict obedience has seen the innovation of agility events which are gaining in popularity. These events, not unlike horse show jumping, are gaining acceptance throughout the country, so much so that the Obedience Committee has promulgated regulations in order to ensure that safety standards are not forgotten in the haste for progress.

Thirty years ago, five dog obedience clubs were recognised by the New Zealand Kennel Club. That number has grown to 68 and covers all aspects of the dog training fraternity. Where will dog obedience go from here? Only the future will tell.

CHAPTER 2

A CLUB IS BORN

"A heaven without one's dog would not be the heaven we hope for" -
Barbara Woodhouse

BEFORE IT ALL STARTED

"Mrs K.C. Cooper (Ashburton) will give a demonstration with her Springer Spaniel Ch. Sandhurst Royal Salute Q.C., of an obedience trial. This event will take place immediately after the luncheon adjournment."

Canterbury Kennel Club Show, 21 May 1955.

One Sunday early in March 1958, Mr D.J. Fifield, Mr S.F. Wiffen and Miss J.C.M. Wiffen met at the late Mr Wiffen's house in Jeffreys Road, Bryndwr, to discuss the prospect of forming a dog obedience club in Christchurch owing to the growing interest amongst the public in dog training. They resolved to place the following advertisement in the local newspapers to ascertain the public's response.

"Anyone interested in the training of dogs please write to etc..."

Approximately 35 replies were received, mostly from members of the existing Canterbury Kennel Club. It was decided to call an inaugural meeting in the Domain Terrace Hall, Christchurch, on Thursday 13 March 1958 under the chairmanship of Mr C.E. Hale, then president of the Canterbury Kennel Club.

The following is an extract from the minutes of the inaugural meeting.

"Present:

C.E. Hale - in the chair, D.J. Fifield - acting Secretary, Mesdames C. M. Cooper, Stanbridge, D.M. Petrie, A.K. Bayne, D.C. Miller, J.M. Cobledick, Misses D. Caldwell and J. Wiffen. Messrs W.H. Ramsey, K. Cooper, F. Gleeson, R.M. Morton, J. Stanbridge, A.K. Bayne, F.G. Mathews, Fuller, Parker, S. Wiffen and L.D. Hayward.

The meeting was opened by Mr Hale who extended a welcome to those attending this inaugural meeting. The acting Secretary briefly outlined the aims of the club.

Constitution:

The Chairman, Mr Hale, explained that he and Mr Fifield had drawn a constitution of rules for the club based on the constitution of the Canterbury Kennel Club. This constitution was then taken paragraph by paragraph, some points being fully discussed. The constitution as prepared by the acting Secretary and amended by the meeting was adopted.

Election of Officers:

Patron: Mr F.E.S. Dale

President: Mr S. Wiffen

Vice President: Miss J. Wiffen

Secretary/Treasurer: Mr L.D. Hayward

Committee: Mesdames A.K. Bayne, J.M. Cobledick, D.C. Miller, Miss D. Caldwell, Messrs G.F. Mathews, W.H. Ramsay and F. Gleeson.

Instructor:

Mrs C.M. Cooper was elected club instructor. Mrs Cooper explained that she was prepared to assist the club in any way she could but felt that the distance involved for her was too great for her to accept the appointment for any length of time. However she agreed to act as instructor until such time as the club was able to provide an instructor from among its own local members.

Grounds:

It was agreed that, providing the Agricultural and Pastoral Association were agreeable, the most suitable site for instruction would be the Canterbury Kennel Club's show ring at the Addington Showgrounds.

First Trial:

It was decided to leave the selection of a date and time for the first trial to the committee.

General Business:

The meeting concluded with an informative address by Mrs Cooper on the running of obedience trials and classes as set down by the New Zealand Kennel Club. Mrs Cooper stressed the need for the club to affiliate to the New Zealand Kennel Club although not bound to. She pointed out that the club should if not do so, would prevent members from competing in championship obedience trials."

The club's first committee meeting was held on Wednesday 19 March 1958 at 265 Tuam Street, in the office of committee member Mr F.A. Gleeson. A wide range of topics were discussed, as could be expected when a club had just been formed.

Affiliation with the New Zealand Kennel Club was discussed and the Secretary was instructed to obtain details in order that this could be attended to. The committee authorised the opening of an account with the Post Office Savings Bank (now Post Bank) and authorised the establishment of a float of two pounds (\$4) for petty cash. The committee also approved the outlay of two pound ten shillings (\$5) for the establishment of a library so that members could borrow books relating to dog obedience. The inevitable raffle was organised and was conducted on the club's first training day. Tickets were six pence (5 cents) each or six for two shillings and sixpence (25 cents). The prize was a koala bear which was donated by Mr F.A. Gleeson. Indeed the first account presented to the committee for payment was ten shillings (\$1) for the purchase of raffle books.

After a full discussion the committee decided to conduct training classes every second Sunday morning. An agreement was reached with Mrs Colleen Cooper for her to travel to Christchurch from Ashburton each training day for the first few weeks until she was able to select a trainee instructor who would be capable of conducting training classes in her absence. Mrs Cooper would subsequently visit at decreasingly regular intervals until the trainee was competent to organise and teach the full training programme. The committee voted Mrs Cooper ten shillings (\$1) per trip to cover her expenses. The Agricultural and Pastoral Society had granted permission for the club to use the Canterbury Kennel Club's show ring for training classes, with the proviso that if there were caravans using the area, then the club would be unable to use the grounds.

The committee decided to conduct a field day on Sunday 13 April 1958. This was the very first training session held by the club and it was therefore

decided that attendance would be open to any member of the public without the need for them to be financial members. One of the stated aims of the first class was to demonstrate to potential club members what dog obedience work involved in the hope that they would join the club. However, initially only owners of pure bred dogs could become members because the New Zealand Kennel Club did not permit non-pure bred dogs to participate in competitive obedience trials.

For the first two months, despite good intentions, training days were held on an irregular basis. This was due to the fact that Mrs Cooper was not always available every second Sunday. However, the committee decided that as from 1 June 1958 training classes would be held every second Sunday, wet or fine. In addition, the committee appointed Mr S.G. Isherwood as club instructor with assistance from Mrs D.C. Miller and Mr D.J. Fifield whenever Mrs Cooper was absent.

The committee also approached the two police dog handlers known to be resident in Christchurch at that time, Constables Stickings and Peterson to determine if they would be willing to assist the club in the instruction of members' dogs. A positive response was received and Police Constables Stickings and Peterson gave instruction and displays for the benefit of dog handlers during the club's first few months and later also judged at some obedience trials. Senior club handlers also joined the two Police Constables for dog training lessons at New Brighton.

The committee meeting held on 18 June 1958 is of historical significance because it was at this meeting, after considerable discussion, that it was decided to conduct training classes on a weekly basis. The recorded minutes state:

"Fortnightly Classes - Once again there was some discussion on fortnightly classes, opinion being divided. It was finally decided that training would be available every Sunday. The announcement to be made by Mr Isherwood for the President on 29 June."

On 3 July 1958, a special committee meeting was convened to consider a letter received from Mrs Cooper. In her letter she stated that due to other commitments and the considerable distance involved in travelling so frequently between Ashburton and Christchurch, which was too time consuming, that she could no longer attend training classes on Sundays. The committee voted eight guineas (\$16.80) for the purchase of a suitable presentation. A social evening was held on 30 September 1958 with Mrs

Cooper guest of honour where the presentation was made.

Prior to August 1958, committee meetings had been held on an as and when required basis. This had led to the calling of eight committee meetings in the first four months of the club's existence. However at its meeting held on 3 July, the committee decided to formalise meeting dates and to conduct them on a regular monthly basis. The fourth Wednesday of the month was decided upon with the venue to be the Domain Terrace Hall.

The club's first ever ribbon trial was conducted in conjunction with the North Canterbury Kennel Club's championship All Breed Show held on 25 October 1958 at Rangiora. The ribbon trial commenced at 10.30 am with entries accepted from 10 am. The trial was entitled a "Novice class obedience trial". A child handlers class was also held. The judge was Mr D.J. Fifield and the steward Mr S.G. Isherwood. Rosettes were awarded to first, second and third places for the ribbon trial and a cake of chocolate for each of the first three places in the junior class.

The arrangements with the Agricultural and Pastoral association proved to be unsatisfactory. Problems arose with the use of the grounds which resulted in the Agricultural and Pastoral Association withdrawing their permission for the club to use the grounds in September 1958. Mrs G.F. Hutton, who was approached by club members, offered the club the use of a piece of land in Deans Avenue next to the veterinary surgeon Mr W.L.C. Purdie (the site of the present Moslem mosque). The only conditions which Mrs Hutton placed on the use of her grounds by the club were that they be kept tidy and in good order. In addition Mrs Hutton required the club to vacate the grounds during show week. The problem of a lack of an electricity supply was rectified when Mr Purdie granted the club the use of a power point from his veterinary surgery.

The new grounds at Deans Avenue had previously been used for the stabling, exercising and training of horses. Hence the requirement to vacate the grounds during show week when the grounds were utilised for the stabling of racehorses. At the same time as the club changed grounds a decision was made to also change the training hours. Classes were changed from Sunday morning to Sunday afternoon. The new grounds proved to be very suitable and many a wet Sunday afternoon was spent in a horse box listening to Mrs Cooper giving a talk on obedience work over afternoon tea.



The Deans Avenue grounds

On 22 October 1958 a trainers' sub-committee reported to the main committee. Among the recommendations agreed to was one which recognised and approved as club instructors the following four trainers:

Grade A - Mrs L.D. Marker

Grade B - Mrs D.C. Miller

Grade C - Mr D.J. Fifield

First Day Handlers - Mr S.G. Isherwood

On 11 February 1959, a Special General Meeting attended by 54 members was held in order to ratify the rules of the club which had been subjected to a review by an advisory committee comprising Mr A.H. Marker (convenor), Mr W.G. Fernie and Mr L.D. Hayward. The existing rules, based on the constitution of the Canterbury Kennel Club (now Canterbury Kennel Association) had proved to be inadequate and inappropriate for the club. With a few amendments, the new club constitution was approved by all members present.

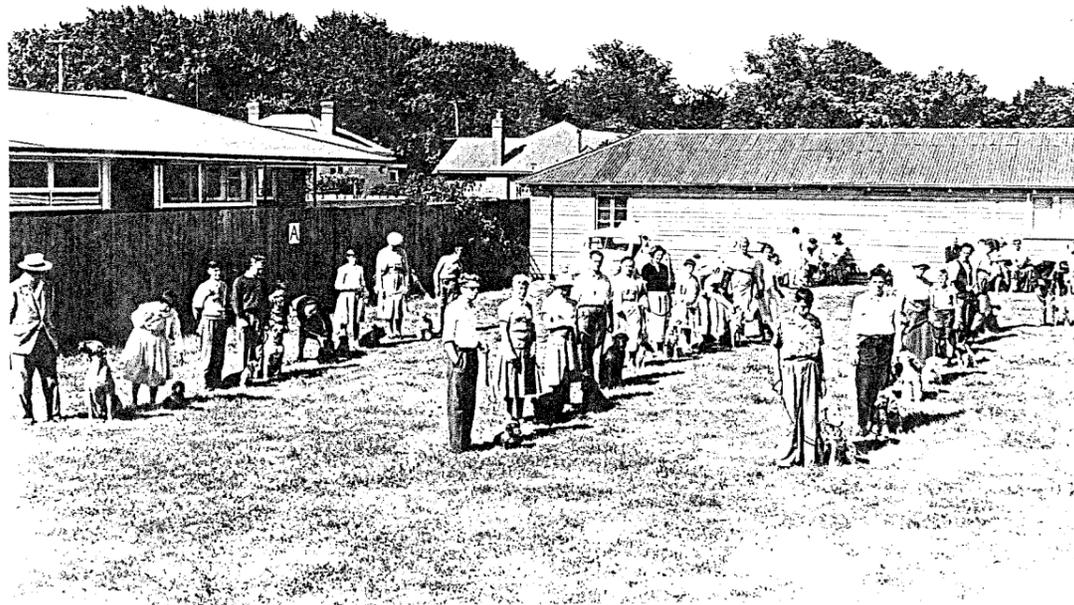
On 30 April 1959 the club held its first Annual General Meeting. At this meeting a number of amendments to the recently approved constitution were discussed. However, after a plea to give the new rules a chance to prove themselves all the proposed amendments were either withdrawn or defeated. Mrs Hutton was elected the club's first life member for her generosity in permitting the club to have the free use of her Deans Avenue property. It was also reported to members that the club had been officially recognised by the New Zealand Kennel Club. There was also healthy competition for the various elected positions with three nominations for the position of Vice-President and twelve nominations for seven Committee positions.



The Sit Stay Exercise at Deans Avenue.

It is at this time, that the position currently known as "club captain" was given official recognition by the club. The position was originally created in August 1958 and had been known by various titles including Field Officer, Field Steward and Field Captain. Up until April 1959 the position of Club Captain had been one where an appointment was made on a training day by training day basis. However in April 1959, a decision was made to make the position of Club Captain an annual appointment. Mr G.F. Mathews was

elected as the club's first club captain. The duties of the Club Captain were stated as being concerned with the erection of the graduation ring, marshalling of dogs for classes and cooperating generally with the Senior Instructor.



On parade at Deans Avenue.

No history of the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club would be complete without relating the saga of the graduation certificates. To most people who participate in today's highly organised dog obedience training classes it would appear to be a simple matter of awarding a certificate after the attainment of satisfactory performance on a class by class basis. However in the early formative years of dog training, when instruction was not nearly as formalised as today, the club's graduation policy was a subject of considerable debate, often ending in heated exchanges of opposite views.

The first mention of graduation certificates occurred in the minutes of the committee meeting held on 20 August 1958. The motion with the apparently innocuous wording "that certificates for graduation be obtained" was carried without dissent. However the matter did not rest here. At several

subsequent committee meetings the question of graduation certificates and awards was raised and discussed.

On 17 March 1959 the committee discussed the affixing of coloured seals to a graduation certificate. Initially all committee members agreed with the proposal and it was decided to have different coloured seals to indicate differing levels of progress. The first hint of disagreement appears when dissention arose regarding the number of seals to be issued. Some members thought three seals were adequate for Special Beginners but others considered that six seals should be allocated because at that time Special Beginners was divided into six parts. After much discussion the following motion was passed *"That the club provide a graduation certificate of such form as to allow the fixing of seals thereon, on the satisfactory completion of the six stages of training as set out for Special Beginners and to be fully signed on complete graduation."*

However at the following committee meeting held on 9 April 1959 the matter was reopened. A move was made to have the previous motion rescinded but the chairman ruled that out of order. Next it was proposed to amend the motion passed in March so that the number of seals issued would be three. This amendment was lost and a contrary amendment raising the number of seals to six was moved. This sparked off a spirited debate with arguments both for and against the motion being aired. Among the arguments in favour of the amended motion to issue six seals for graduation was that dog training was not an easy pastime and handlers needed every encouragement to persevere and it was only just that the club should recognise and support the efforts of club members. Counter arguments centred around the point that by issuing more than three seals this would make the obtaining of seals too easy and cheapen the achievement of those who had worked hard. The amendment was finally passed on the chairman's casting vote. A further amendment reducing the number of seals from six to four was put to the meeting but was lost, once again on the chairman's casting vote.

However this was not the end of the matter. Following the Annual General Meeting held on 30 April 1959, a new committee was elected and at its first meeting on 7 May 1959 its very first action was to rescind the motion relating to graduation certificates and seals which had been passed by the previous committee. A single certificate without seals was introduced with a minimum pass of 75% of the points allocated to each exercise. Just three days later at yet another committee meeting the percentage points required to graduate were criticised and the following amendment was

passed *"That for any graduation, the margin of points be 75% overall with a minimum of 60% of the points for each exercise."* However on 30 July 1959 further discussion took place regarding the percentage of points required to graduate. Numerous proposals were put forward and arguments raised both for and against. Finally it was agreed on a majority vote to raise the pass for each exercise from 60% to 75% of the total points.

The saga does not end here. On 5 November 1959 the committee decided to issue graduation certificates to all those handlers who gained sufficient points at the forthcoming ribbon trial. This provoked considerable discussion with some members claiming that to issue graduation certificates at a ribbon trial would breach New Zealand Kennel Club rules which prohibited the issue of "special prizes". Once again on a majority decision the committee agreed to issue graduation certificates at the ribbon trial although at its next meeting on 26 November 1959, the committee agreed to write to the New Zealand Kennel Club to determine if in fact it had acted contrary to the rules! The result completely vindicated the committee's decision and the graduation certificate was finally here to stay (albeit without any coloured seals!).

Graduation certificates were not the only area of disagreement. A further controversial topic was the club's training policy. There was considerable discussion and debate pertaining to the training courses available to club members. The training system which had been instituted at the commencement of the club's activities was divided into two sections namely domestic and university. The two terms are fairly self explanatory. The domestic classes were organised to provide basic obedience tuition whereas the university classes were arranged specially to cater for the competitively minded handler.

Some committee members felt that courses of a set duration should be provided while others felt handlers should be permitted to attend classes on a casual basis. The length of each course was also discussed with ten to twelve weeks being the most favoured option.

Some committee members felt that by providing two different types of instruction there was a possibility of creating an elite within the club ranks. This suggestion was roundly criticised as an over dramatic presentation of the facts and the statement was made that the club's training programme must be conducted on a serious basis if the club was to progress. Further criticism erupted when arrangements were made for club

instructors to travel to Ashburton to receive instruction from Mrs Cooper. The number of trainers to travel and indeed the need for the trip to take place at all were the subject of a heated exchange.

It was at this time that the committee seriously gave consideration to the possibility of restricting membership to 200. The arguments in favour included: other clubs had done so and profited from this action, it would give the club standing within the community and club membership would be more desirable if there was a waiting list. However, nothing ever came of the proposal.

In October 1959 the club received its first perpetual trophy, the Dale Cup donated by Mr and Mrs F.E. Dale. Mr Dale was the club's first patron. Considerable discussion took place as to what class it should be awarded to. Suggestions included:

- . over a series of tests with the cup being awarded to the dog with the highest aggregate points,
- . over a series of exercises,
- . awarded to junior handlers,
- . dog with the highest honours during the year,
- . for open competition in Test A.

The cup was first competed for on 7 February 1960 for Test A competition with two judges, Mrs Miller and Mr Isherwood. The points awarded were averaged to decide the winner.

It may appear that the early days of the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club were fraught with difficulties and that committee members were constantly at loggerheads with each other. However, there was a group of equally active club members working quietly in the background preparing the way for a new era for the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club.

CHAPTER 3

THE BEGINNING OF AN ERA

"The temperament and individual characteristics of each dog must be considered and the training technique varied to meet the occasion" -
Blanche Saunders

The club's training grounds had always been subject to temporary arrangements. Initially the training classes had been conducted at the Agricultural and Pastoral showgrounds in Lincoln Road. The club had used the Canterbury Kennel Club show ring but this was not available when holiday makers were present. Later in 1958 the club moved to the Deans Avenue property owned by Mrs Hutton. Once again this arrangement was considered temporary as the club was unable to modify either the grounds or the buildings in order to provide better conditions and facilities for club members.

A special committee meeting was called on 3 December 1958 to discuss the problem of suitable training grounds. This was a very topical issue as the club had recently been obliged to vacate the Agricultural and Pastoral showgrounds venue and had been very fortunate to receive Mrs Hutton's generous offer of the free use of her land.

The committee decided to appoint an advisory committee comprising Messrs Marker (convenor), Fernie and Hayward. The task of the advisory committee was, "to enquire into the possibility of arranging for better training grounds and to make recommendations to the general committee for their consideration and decision". The advisory committee was also requested to bear in mind the following considerations:

- . Approximately two acres of ground were required*
- . Suggested localities: Marshlands, Middleton, Bromley, Wainoni and Harewood*
- . Ownership was preferred*
- . Enquiries should be made into fencing*

. Amenities expected:

- conveniences*
- a hall suitable for a small class*
- electricity*
- a water supply*
- kitchen facilities*
- minimum fencing requirements*
- facilities for grass cutting"*

In 1959 Mr A.H. Marker was elected as the club's second president. On 7 May 1959, at a committee meeting, he outlined to members the intention of himself and his wife to purchase a property at 82 Lincoln Road, Christchurch, which would be made available to the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club and other clubs as a dog centre. He stated that Mr and Mrs Marker were interested in the welfare of the club and wished to see the club progress and to eventually own its own property. The following motion was carried by the committee, "That this Committee on behalf of all the members of the club place on record their grateful thanks for the very generous offer that Mr and Mrs Marker have made in offering the club the use of the property situated at 82 Lincoln Road". On 10 May 1959 the club formally created a property fund.

Mr and Mrs A.H. Marker purchased the one acre property at 82 Lincoln Road from Mr "Swaney Smith". The property was in a rather dilapidated state and many a working bee was conducted to restore the property. It had been used as an area for the training and stabling of racehorses and the site of the clubhouse was where the horse boxes once stood.

In July 1959, when the transfer of the land at 82 Lincoln Road had been completed, Mr Marker called for volunteers to work on improving the property. The first working bee was held on Saturday 11 July 1959. The property was a wilderness, loose horse boxes were scattered around the section, Alderberry and Quince trees and long grass was typical of the scene. An old house stood in front of the grounds by the road and was occupied by Mr and Mrs Mills who were employed by the club for a short period to look after the grounds. An old shed which had been the tack room containing feed and harnesses was situated in front of the clubhouse.

The walls separating the horse boxes were removed, a concrete floor laid, concrete posts erected, plumbing installed and finally the club colours, blue and white, painted on the exterior of the clubhouse. Some of the timber beams in the clubhouse once formed part of the original wooden

horse box structure. The trees were felled and the stumps burnt, the ground levelled and grass sown. A gate and fences were erected around the perimeter of the ground with all post holes dug by hand.

The work fell on the shoulders of the dedicated few. Even on a good day only about twenty people would turn out for a working bee which might last all day and sometimes into the night. The family of the workers would arrive at times to provide sustenance in order to fuel the "wheels of industry".

However, after many months of hard work and many working bees later the dedicated workers were rewarded when finally the grounds were ready for occupancy by the club. The Canterbury Canine Obedience Club officially moved to and assumed responsibility for the grounds at 82 Lincoln Road on Sunday 1 November 1959.

The grounds were officially declared open by the President of the New Zealand Kennel Club Mr M.K. McDermott on Sunday 15 November 1959. The club decided to conduct a ribbon trial on the opening day. The following is a transcript of the official recorded minutes of the occasion.

"Judges:- Mr L. Peterson and Mr A. Godfrey.

Stewards:- Mrs C.M. Cooper and Mrs D.C. Miller.

The first ribbon trials of the club were held at the new training grounds at 82 Lincoln Road. Two judging rings were in operation. Judging commenced at 1.45 pm. Entries were excellent. Entries totalled 39 excluding the teams event. The president, Mr A.H. Marker, asked Mr M.K. McDermott, President of the New Zealand Kennel Club, to declare the grounds open. Miss Roslyn Ward accompanied by the President's wife Mrs L.D. Marker, presented Mrs McDermott with a bouquet. Mr and Mrs Bruce of Sydney and Mr and Mrs R.M. Morten, the President of the Canterbury Kennel Club were among those present. Ribbons with appropriate prize cards attached were presented to first, second and third placegetters."

Early in 1960 the committee decided to form a grounds committee consisting of Messrs Purdom (convenor), Armstrong, Campbell, Fox and Rowe. The terms of reference of this sub-committee were:

- *veterinary examination of dogs*
- *badges of authority be issued*
- *purchase of a suitable motor mower*
- *layout and maintenance of clubhouse and grounds*

- *define the duties of ground personnel*
- *supervise the conduct of dogs while at the grounds*
- *attend to the fencing of the grounds"*

The club held its first Championship Obedience Tests on 28 May 1960 in conjunction with the Canterbury Kennel Club at 82 Lincoln Road. The judges were:

- . Special Beginners and Novice: Mr D.J. Fifield
- . Test A: Mrs L.D. Marker
- . Tests B and C: Mrs D.C. Miller.

Entries were five shillings and sixpence (55 cents) including sixpence per entry (5 cents) levy to the New Zealand Kennel Club. Admission to the grounds for members of the public was one shilling (10 cents) for adults and children six pence (5 cents). Entries were accepted up to one week prior to the date of the show. Entries totalled 35 for 17 dogs. Trophies were donated by the following people:

- . Test C "Cavalier Rosebowl": Mr J.L. Rowe (Club President)
- . Test B: Mr G.F. Mathews
- . Test A: Mrs D.C. Miller
- . Novice: Miss D. Caldwell
- . Special Beginners: Mr and Mrs T.R. Rushbridge.

The successful handlers were:

- . Test C: Mr L. Williams
- . Test B: Mrs L.D. Marker
- . Test A: Mrs M. Kirk
- . Novice: Mr L. Williams
- . Special Beginners: Miss F. Stubbington.

In March 1961 the committee expressed concern about the security of the club's tenure of the grounds at 82 Lincoln Road. It was decided to form a sub-committee comprising the President, Vice President and the Secretary to approach the owners regarding this matter. A special committee meeting was called to hear the decisions of the representatives appointed to approach the owners. The terms of the lease were as follows:

"The owners are prepared to lease to the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club, the training grounds, clubhouse, and car park conditionally upon a

financial member, who is acceptable to the owners, being prepared to give an approved bank guarantee for the sum of 250 Pounds (\$500) to indemnify the club to carry out its obligations required in the proposed lease which will include the following terms:

- (1) Term of lease 3 years*
- (2) Contribute 30 Pound (\$60) each year towards the rates*
- (3) Maintain the training grounds, carpark and entrance drive*
- (4) Continue to hold and pay existing insurance policies*
- (5) Maintain the clubhouse*
- (6) Drainage responsibilities*
- (7) Replacement of broken glass*
- (8) Paint the clubhouse on or before 31 December 1963*
- (9) Rent to be one Pound (\$2) per week payable per calendar month*
- (10) Club is responsible for any damage to fences*
- (11) Police regulations to be strictly adhered to by club members*
- (12) M.E.D. charges to be payable by the club*
- (13) Legal fees for preparation of the lease be payable by the club."*

At the club's third Annual General Meeting held on 27 April 1961, the number of committee members was increased from seven to ten in order to allow greater representation and participation of club members in the running of club affairs. Three new life members were also elected, Mr and Mrs A.H. Marker and Mr D.J. Fifield.

In 1963 the committee realised that the future financial security of the club was in need of review. It was decided on 4 March 1963 to introduce a training fee on all handlers attending classes. The levy was set at 2 shillings (20 cents) for adults and one shilling (10 cents) for juniors. On 10 March at a Special General Meeting, subscriptions were increased from 5 shillings (50 cents) to ten shillings (\$1) for juniors, ten shillings (\$1) to twenty shillings (\$2) for adults and a new joint subscription of thirty shillings (\$3) was introduced.

In June 1963 Mrs Jean Schofield suggested that a club honours board be established for all dogs whether purebred or not. The aim of the honours board was to give some incentive to handlers with crossbred dogs which were at that time ineligible for recognised obedience trials. In order to qualify for the club's highest honour, a handler and dog were required to graduate Test C three times losing not more than 10 points on each occasion and under at least two different judges. The same conditions still apply today. The club honours board was installed in the clubhouse on

1 March 1964 at a cost of 14 Pounds (\$28). The first graduations for the honours board were conducted in August 1963.

**CANTERBURY CANINE OBEDIENCE CLUB
GRADUATION HONOURS BOARD**

1964 MR + MRS R KRAUZE GERMAN SHEPHERD RHONDA OB.CH. CDH
1966 MR + MRS W SHIRLEY WELSH CORGI NIKKI OB.CH. CDH
1966 MR + MRS R KRAUZE GERMAN SHEPHERD REX OB.CH. CDH UDH
1968 MR + MRS J GALLACHER GERMAN SHEPHERD DUKE OB.CH. CDH
1972 MR + MRS W SHIRLEY WELSH CORGI GOLDEN GIRL OB.CH. CDH
1972 MR W WOODS GERMAN SHEPHERD ANITA OB.CH. CDH
1973 MR Z COLVILLE WELSH CORGI PEN-Y-DRE SEA CHARM OB.CH. CDH
1974 MR + MRS D RICHARDS GERMAN SHEPHERD KASIN OB.CH. CDH
1975 MRS J TOPP BORDER COLLIE MECCA OB.CH. CDH
1976 MR + MRS W SHIRLEY WELSH CORGI CRACKER OB.CH. CDH
1976 MRS J TRUSCOTT SHETLAND SHEEPDOG SANCHO OB.CH. CDH
1977 MR + MRS F GILBERT SAMOYED SIBER AYESHA CDH
1977 MR + MRS D RICHARDS GERMAN SHEPHERD KIRSTY OB.CH. CDH
1979 MR + MRS L WEBB IRISH SETTER KELLIE CDH
1982 MRS J DEMOUTH SHETLAND SHEEPDOG HONEY OB.CH. CDH
1987 MRS G BOUTEREY ENGLISH SETTER PEPPER CDH

The club graduation Honours Board

On 21 October 1963 a Special General Meeting was called to consider the club rules and to study the possibility of incorporation in order to protect club members from any legal action which might be brought against the club. The club was registered with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies on 21 February 1964 as the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club, a name adopted by the club in January 1959.

On 9 February 1964 the Queens Park Dog Training Club (now the Christchurch Dog Training Club), formed by Mr W. Isherwood who had previously been a member of the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club committee, commenced training. On 7 September 1964 the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club gave its consent and support to the Queens Park Dog Training Club when it applied for New Zealand Kennel Club recognition, provided it conducted training classes on Sunday mornings. To this day, these are the only two all breed dog obedience clubs which exist in Christchurch.



The training grounds and clubhouse at 82 Lincoln Road.

In February 1964, Mrs and Miss Blanch donated the wooden fruit bowl known as the Appreciation Trophy. It was originally intended for competition at the club's November championship tests, but in May 1964 it was decided to award this trophy to the handler of any dog under 18 months of age gaining the highest percentage points in the test for which it last graduated. The trophy was thus limited to club members only.

Mr D.J. Fifield donated for a period, the "Fifield Buttons". They were awarded to the most improved lady and gent handler who had graduated Special Beginners in the previous year.

A number of trophies were donated by club members for perpetual competition at the club's November 1964 championship obedience tests. The following trophies were donated to the club:

- . Cavalier Rosebowl : Mr and Mrs J.L. Rowe
- . Dal Brae Cup: Mr and Mrs R.H. Marker
- . Tilbury Cup: Mr G. Clarke
- . Pegasus Cup: Mr and Mrs P. Fox
- . Founders Cup: The club founders.

On 2 December 1964 Mr and Mrs R. Krauze donated the Riga Cup for Test C competition. It was to be competed for at the same time as the Dale Cup, Appreciation Trophy and Fifield Buttons. The cup was for competition by club members only and was not to be awarded if the winning dog lost more than 20 points. The trophy was for open competition by club members, whether or not their dog was registered with the New Zealand Kennel Club but obedience champions were not permitted to compete.

Permanent seating was installed at 82 Lincoln Road in 1964. A number of members donated sums of money and had name plates attached to the bench type seating. In February 1965 a concrete pavement at the rear of the clubhouse was completed.

A loudspeaker system was installed to permit a fuller coverage of club events and important information for the benefit of club members at a cost of 33 Pounds (\$66). The old house at the front of the property was removed thus providing a grassed area which was used for the off street parking of cars for handlers while they trained their dogs on the grounds.

In 1968 the committee decided to hold a Special General Meeting of all club members in order that the club's financial year could be altered from a March year to a December year. At the same time the club rules were amended to allow the club's Annual General Meeting to be held in February of each year instead of April. In 1970, at yet another Special General Meeting, a membership fee of \$2 was levied on all new members in their first year of club membership. This was a further method of raising funds in order to counter ever mounting costs.

In 1973 the old Dennison reel motor mower, originally purchased from the United Bowling Club in 1959, and the rota cut mower were both sold and a new self-propelling motor mower purchased at a cost of \$580. In the same year, Mr and Mrs W. Shirley donated a photo gallery of polished wood on which the photos of a number of the club's obedience champions can be seen.

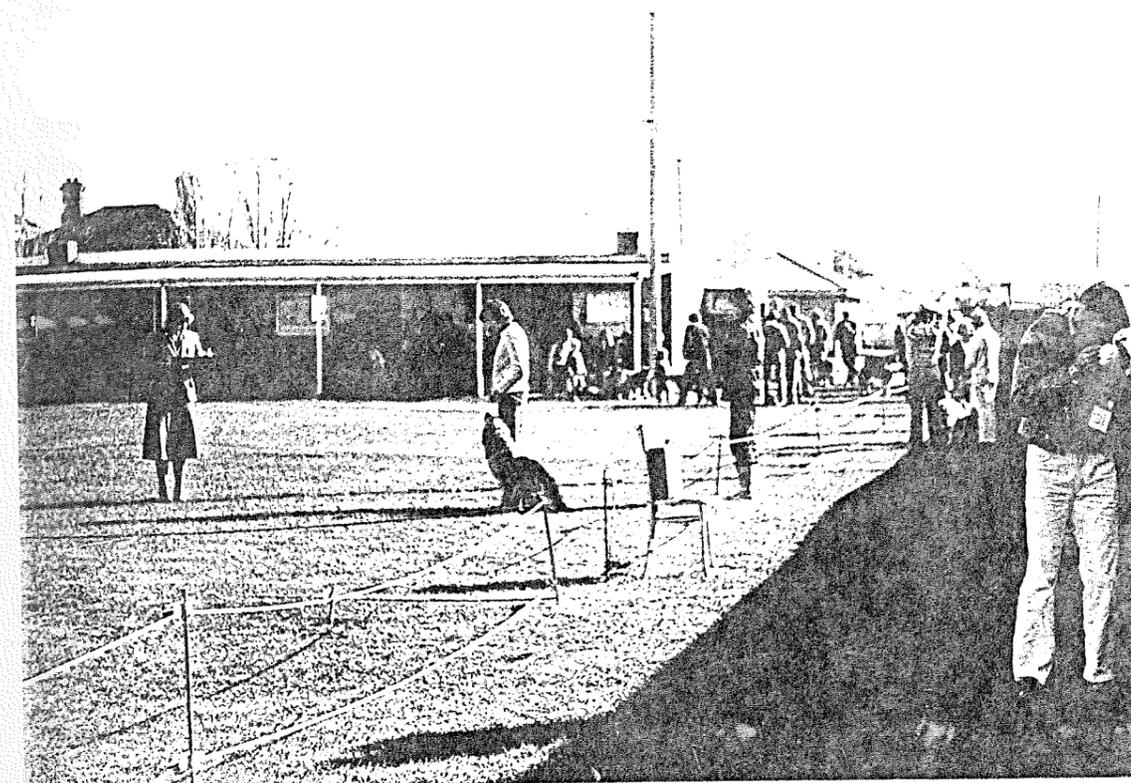


The training grounds at 82 Lincoln Road were floodlit in 1973.

A ticket box was added to the front of the clubhouse late in 1973 in order to protect our ticket seller from the elements. In 1974 the committee decided, in response to numerous requests for shade and protection from the weather, to erect a verandah. This structure formed an extension to the rear of the clubhouse and was erected in early 1975.

During the Winter months, 82 Lincoln Road was often unusable as it was prone to flooding due to its low lying nature. Training was transferred to 288 Cashel Street, then a vacant lot used for car parking. Later, after the Cashel Street property was sold in 1979, the club's training was held at the car park located at the shopping centre on the corner of Lincoln Road and Lyttelton Street whenever 82 Lincoln Road was unusable.

In order to generate additional revenue and to fulfill the original purpose for which 82 Lincoln Road was purchased, the Canterbury Canine Obedience



This view of 82 Lincoln Road shows the ticket box and implement shed.

Club sub-let the training grounds and clubhouse to specialist breed obedience clubs. Among the clubs to rent the grounds were; South Island German Shepherd League, South Island Boxer Club, Southern Golden Retriever Club, South Island Dobermann Club and the Zone 4 Obedience Committee. In 1979 the club committee established the following rental charges:

<i>daily rental of grounds and clubhouse</i>	<i>\$12</i>
<i>daily rental all facilities (including public address system)</i>	<i>\$18</i>
<i>clubhouse only (for meetings)</i>	<i>\$4</i>
<i>clubhouse with kitchen</i>	<i>\$6</i>
<i>use of floodlights per hour</i>	<i>\$1.50</i>
<i>show ring fencing rental per day</i>	<i>\$6</i>

A bond of \$20 was required whenever a club hired the kitchen. The bond

being refunded if the facilities were left in a clean condition.

In September 1979 the motor mower was replaced with the present self-propelled mower at a cost of \$1,350.

By 1979 the club had been in existence for 21 years. However the club's 21st birthday celebrations failed to eventuate despite two valiant attempts to organise a social function. Originally the celebrations were scheduled for Saturday 17 March 1979 initially at the Linwood Rugby League Hall. Later the venue was changed to Wilding Park and then to Heatherlea but the arrangements fell through because of cost. However on Sunday 18 March 1979 a celebration was conducted at 82 Lincoln Road. All members were invited on a bring a plate basis and games were held for both handlers and dogs. Later in the same year it was decided to attempt to once again celebrate the club's 21st birthday in style at the Old Orchard, later changed to the Marist Rugby Football Hall, but due to a lack of support the proposal collapsed.

In 1980 a series of "meet your instructor evenings" were conducted. This was an attempt to generate club spirit and a closer unity amongst club members. The meetings took the form of a fifteen minute address by a guest speaker, followed by a discussion session and rounded off by a social get together.

During the late 1970's and early 1980's a groundswell of club membership opinion considered that the club required a firmer tenure on its training facilities. This situation caused considerable strain and tension and eventually resulted in a rift between the club membership and the owners of 82 Lincoln Road and the end of an era for the club.

CHAPTER 4

"A home without a well loved dog in it does not seem to me to be a home"
- Catherine Fisher

Due to a number of factors, principally financial, the club membership collectively at the club's eighteenth Annual General Meeting held on 23 February 1976 agreed that the committee should investigate the possibility of obtaining alternative training grounds. A number of members considered that the club was very fortunate to be paying only \$7 per week rental plus rates and insurance for the grounds at 82 Lincoln Road. Nevertheless many arguments were raised in favour of alternative venues including: ever increasing rate demands, 82 Lincoln Road was often unusable in wet weather as it was very low lying and the uncertain tenure of the grounds. Fund raising suggestions were offered including the issuing of debentures for a three year term at reasonable interest rates. It was agreed that the club should endeavour to invest \$500 per year towards the acquisition of a new training ground.

In April 1976 the committee held its first discussion relating to the relocation of the club's training grounds. A club member, who was also a builder, was requested to provide an estimate of the cost of erecting a clubhouse. The estimate as recorded in the official club minutes is shown below.

- "Allowing for:*
- Reinforced concrete foundations and floor*
 - Timber framed walls and roof*
 - Corrugated iron roofing and exterior walls*
 - 6 doors and 7 windows*
 - Hardboard interior lining to office, kitchen and storeroom*
 - Interior walls*
 - Spouting and down pipes*

(Note: No allowance has been made for drainlaying, plumbing, painting, interior joinery or electrical work.)

Estimated price \$5,500."

In contrast, the club funds at that time were reported as being \$3,500

comprising \$2,500 in investments and \$1,000 in current account.

During the balance of 1976 a number of other properties were considered by the committee. MacLeans Island, the headquarters of the Canterbury Kennel Association was thought to be a last resort due to the distance of these grounds from the majority of club members and the fact that MacLeans Island was subject to six weekly dog dosing.

In September 1976 the committee gave consideration to the Methodist Church grounds, also situated on Lincoln Road. The following investigation was reported to the committee.

"The grounds would comprise approximately 3/4 of an acre. The grounds have both men's and women's toilet facilities. At the rear of and adjoining the church is a small hall with kitchen facilities. At the rear of the grounds 2 tar sealed tennis courts exist in reasonable order, which would provide ideal wet weather training facilities. The fencing however is not in a very good condition at the rear of the grounds."

The committee decided that the Methodist Church grounds were not suitable for a number of reasons. Despite the close proximity to 82 Lincoln Road of the property, the grounds and the situation of the buildings would not permit the club to operate its training classes in a very efficient manner. In addition, the main building was in a damaged state as a result of a severe storm the previous year.

In November of the same year the committee agreed to a joint proposal with a number of other dog clubs to approach the Waimairi County Council (now Waimairi District Council) with the prospect of obtaining some Council land as a dog centre for Christchurch. In January 1977 a meeting was held with Waimairi District Council officials and it was decided that each club should seek the support of its club membership prior to continuing discussions. It was agreed that further discussions would continue only if the membership of all the clubs involved agreed to the proposal.

On 22 February 1977 at the club's Annual General Meeting, a full discussion regarding the proposal was held. A number of positive and negative comments were aired. It was thought that the club would lose its identity sharing a common training ground with a number of other clubs. However it was explained that each club would retain its present training days and times so that no confusion would arise. The point was also made that the club's liquid assets would easily pay the expenditure on rent, rates and

insurance on 82 Lincoln Road. Mr Marker, on behalf of his wife, as owners of 82 Lincoln Road, stated that they had no intention of selling the grounds and gave an assurance that in the foreseeable future the grounds would continue to be available for use by the club. A vocal vote was taken at the Annual General Meeting and it was declared that the club would continue with the negotiations with the Waimairi District Council. However the President's decision was queried and a show of hands was requested. This resulted in a reversal of the decision as 12 members voted for continuation of the negotiations while 20 members voted against.

At the club's twentieth Annual General Meeting held on 21 February 1978 the proposal for alternative training grounds was reopened. Questions were asked about the proposed dog centre which had been mooted twelve months previously and a discussion was held regarding costs and the available sites for the dog centre. However, a motion was carried by the Annual General Meeting that the discussions with the Waimairi District Council not be reopened. Nevertheless, just one year later at the next Annual General Meeting, the statement was made by the owners of 82 Lincoln Road that the Christchurch City Council may wish to purchase the club's training grounds in order to open a landlocked area for residential housing.

In April 1979 the committee agreed that enquiries should be made into obtaining a new training venue. The President, Mr A.H. Marker, also co-owner of 82 Lincoln Road, discussed possible training venues with Christchurch City Council officials. The result was not very encouraging - there was no possibility of the club using Christchurch City Council parkland for dog training purposes.

However the matter of alternative training grounds was brought to a head at the club's following Annual General Meeting held on 26 February 1980. Considerable concern was expressed regarding the 60% increase in ground rental. Several club members voiced their concern at the considerable rise in financial outgoings which the club would now face. Many conflicting claims were made and rebutted. The acrimonious debate concluded with the passing of a motion instructing the incoming committee to investigate alternative training grounds. Mr Marker stated on behalf of the owners of 82 Lincoln Road that regrettably in view of the decision by the meeting that the grounds would be auctioned with the club having first option to purchase.

The newly elected committee held its first meeting on 4 March 1980 and formed a sub-committee comprising Messrs Colville (convenor), Blake and Webb. The terms of reference of the sub-committee were to investigate the possibility of purchasing 82 Lincoln Road and if this was not possible to look into obtaining alternative training grounds. The sub-committee duly met the owners of 82 Lincoln Road to discuss the possibility of the club purchasing the training grounds. Unfortunately it was considered not financially practicable for the club to purchase the land at 82 Lincoln Road. However the owners of the property stated that they would not sell the grounds while the club still wished to use them.

In July 1980 the sub-committee reported that it had investigated land available for lease from the Ministry of Works in the Hoon Hay / Blenheim Road areas but nothing was suitable for club use. Land in Jubilee Road, Woolston, had also been considered but this was private land and was unlikely to be available at a reasonable price. In September 1980 the sub-committee stated that the Ministry of Works had a one hectare site in Edinburgh Street, Addington, for a one year lease with a right of renewal. Unfortunately this land would ultimately be required for urban housing development and was therefore not suitable as a permanent site for the club's training grounds. Approaches were also made to the Addington Raceway and the Department of Education without success. Properties in Domain Terrace and Lincoln Road were considered for purchase but due to the price and residential zoning negotiations were not proceeded with. Further possibilities included land between the motorways in Jerrold Street North and South, but this was not progressed because of car parking and access problems, also the proposed dog centre land in Greers Road, but no progress was made with this suggestion because the land was no longer available.

The sub-committee continued the long and tedious process of investigating alternative training venues. In May 1981 a sub-committee comprising Messrs Colville (convenor) and Shirley met with Christchurch City Council officers with the result that two properties were offered to the club for use as training grounds. The first property, situated at the rear of Cowles Stadium, Pages Road at Cuthbert's Green had been developed as a playing field for sports clubs. Unfortunately the club would not have sole use of the grounds and any clubhouse erected would also be available for use by all other clubs using Cuthbert's Green. The second property, in Shortland Street, situated behind the Nga Hau E Wha national marae was in a very rough state and was bordered on the Shortland Street boundary by residential housing. The committee inspected both sites but considered that

the Shortland Street property had greater prospects. Indeed some committee members felt that the club should accept the City Council's offer and proceed immediately to develop the property, but other members urged caution and recommended that other local councils be approached. It was decided to send letters to other local councils while at the same time a further approach would be made to the Christchurch City Council in order to determine if other properties were available.

The Paparua County Council referred the club to the Greyhound Racing Club which was based at the site of the Carrs Road refuse tip. However the committee decided not to pursue this matter further.

The Waimairi District Council offered the club three alternative training venues; Jellie Park, Westburn Terrace and Ray Blank Park. The committee established a sub-committee comprising the President Mr Colville and the Secretary Miss Harding. They duly investigated the three venues and reported back to the committee.

(a) Jellie Park (Greers Road side): The grounds could not be fenced although permission for the erection of a clubhouse could be obtained.

(b) Westburn Terrace: The site of the old Ministry of Transport bicycle training school could not be fenced. In addition the grounds were surrounded by residential housing and Westburn Terrace was very narrow with insufficient space for car parking. A clubhouse was already erected on the site and would be available for club members' use but the grounds were divided into a number of grass plots each surrounded by miniature roads complete with road markings and street signs.

(c) Ray Blank Park: Situated in Maidstone Road, this park was used on Sunday mornings for primary school hockey and the noise had drawn complaints from local residents. The property could not be fenced although a clubhouse was situated on the grounds.

The Council officers stated that other land was available outside the urban area but no buildings had been erected on any possible site and dogs which attended the club's training classes would be subjected to six weekly hydatid dosing.

In June 1981, the Christchurch City Council advised the club that no suitable alternative venues were available. The committee also considered that none of the options offered by the Waimairi District Council were suitable

and therefore the sub-committee returned for further discussions with Waimairi Council officers. In July the sub-committee reported that the Wairakei Reserve, situated at 490 Wairakei Road, which had been bequeathed to the Waimairi District Council, had been offered to the club for dog training purposes. The Council had no specific purpose for the reserve which provided a buffer between residential and industrial sites in the area. The reserve had recently been planted with trees and was bordered along eastern and northern sides by a shallow dry stream bed.

In September 1981 the committee held a meeting with Waimairi District Councillor W. Rice in attendance. Councillor Rice enquired into the club's long term requirements. The committee considered that the only long term requirement was the erection of a building on the training grounds. Councillor Rice considered that the club would be able to obtain a 21 year lease with a right of renewal and as the Wairakei Reserve was not zoned recreational it would be less difficult negotiating the erection of a building. The possibility of erecting a low fence with a gate on the roadside of the reserve was not thought to be a problem. The rental of the grounds would be similar to that which other sports clubs paid for the use of Council land. Councillor Rice thought that an annual rental of \$200 would be required. Councillor Rice also advised the committee that Waimairi District Council had loan money available and suggested that the club should approach the Metropolitan Grants Committee.



The Wairakei Reserve.

In November 1981, a sub-committee comprising Messrs Colville (convenor) and Condon attended a meeting of the Waimairi District Council Sports and Recreation Sub-Committee. The Council sub-committee agreed to shorten the trial period of the club's operation from six to three months after which the Council would be prepared to grant the club a 33 year lease with a right of renewal on the land which the club was desirous of erecting a clubhouse. Permission would be granted for the club to use the balance of the reserve, which would be classified as a recreational area, " at the Council's pleasure". The club would have exclusive use of the reserve on Sundays, Tuesday nights and any Saturdays required. However, if the club were ever to vacate the land, any clubhouse which had been erected would revert to Waimairi District Council property.

The committee decided to accept the proposal from the Waimairi District Council and accordingly established itself at the Wairakei Reserve while still retaining 82 Lincoln Road. The club had by this time been granted a \$1,000 loan by the Waimairi District Council at 10% interest repayable after 12 months. In addition, Mr Brendon Morrison, a draughtsman and club member, also assisted by drawing a clubhouse plan for submission to the Waimairi District Council.

In February 1982, training was reported as progressing well although it was noted that a number of the club's new neighbours were unhappy at the use to which the reserve was being put. Committee members personally contacted the club's new neighbours and explained the club's operation and invited them to attend on Sundays to witness the procedures. However, on Sunday 18 April 1982 the club's neighbours mounted a concerted campaign of deliberate disruption to the club training activities. The protestors interrupted classes by playing ball games and riding bicycles through classes. Many people sat in groups around and in the middle of the grounds while others loudly applauded the antics of the protestors. On 20 April 1982 the committee held a special meeting which Waimairi District Councillor Rice attended. Councillor Rice confirmed that the club had exclusive use of the reserve on Sundays and that the club's neighbours had been in the wrong to interrupt the club's training activities which were an approved use of the reserve. The committee decided to send a letter of complaint to the Council and commenced a petition in support of its training at the Wairakei Reserve. The matter quickly escalated as articles appeared in the local suburban newspapers regarding the noisy nature of the club's activities, fouling of the grounds together with traffic and parking problems caused by the club and its members. Objections to the siting of the clubhouse on the reserve had also been lodged by the club's neighbours

at the forthcoming town planning meeting.

A meeting of the Waimairi District Council Works Sub-Committee decided to grant the club exclusive use of the Wairakei Reserve on a week by week basis until the Council was able to locate more suitable land due to the "uncompromising attitude of the neighbours". Subsequently the Council offered the club four further pieces of land:

- (a) Bishopdale car park
- (b) Nunweek Park
- (c) Crosbie Park
- (d) Marylands Reserve.

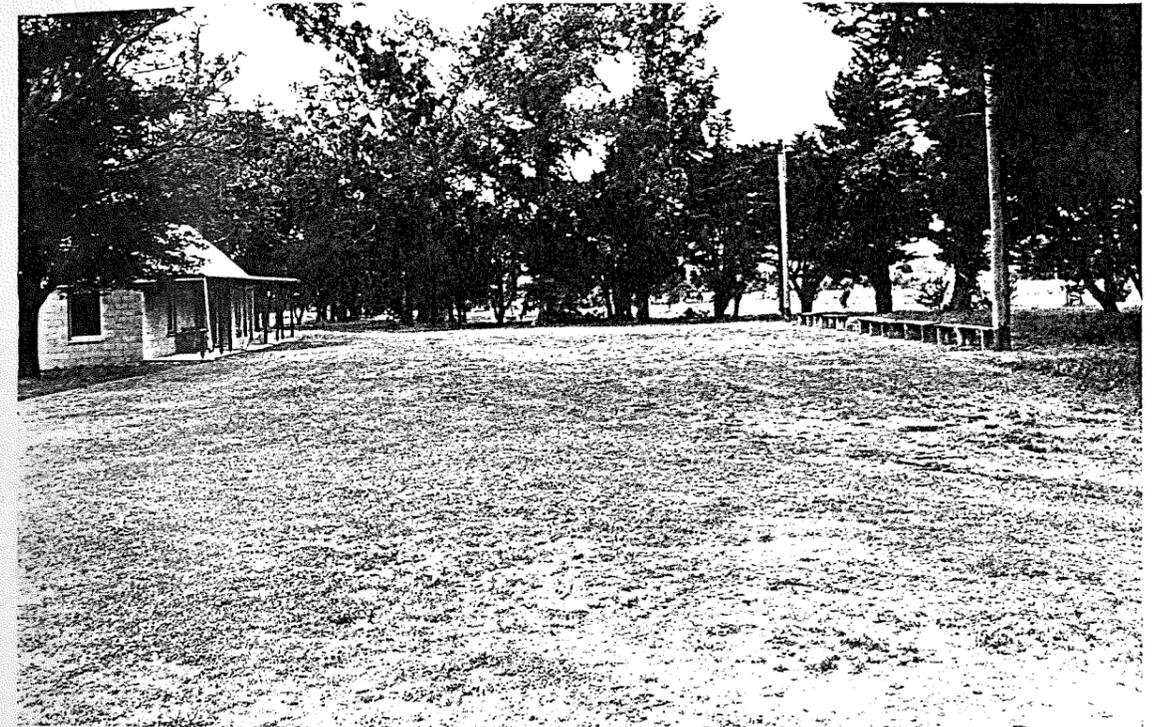
A sub-committee comprising the President (Mr Carson) and Secretary (Miss Harding) met with Waimairi District Council staff to discuss the options available to the club and any restrictions applicable. The land at Marylands Reserve appeared to be the most suitable offered by the Council therefore the following points were clarified with Council staff with respect to this land:-

- . A further trial period of three months would be required
- . It would be possible for the club to erect a clubhouse on the reserve
- . Club would have the exclusive use of as much of the reserve as required for its purposes
- . A gate could be inserted into the fence which surrounded the reserve
- . A temporary shelter could be erected until the clubhouse was built
- . No other organisation was interested in the reserve
- . A 21 year lease with a right of renewal would be most likely
- . Approval for the use of the reserve by the club could be granted within two weeks
- . The reserve would not be taken for motorway or other purposes
- . The Sports and Recreation loan of \$1,000 could be transferred to the new venue

The committee inspected the Marylands Reserve site and were in unanimous agreement to advise the Waimairi District Council that the site was entirely acceptable for club training purposes. The club's town planning application and Sport and Recreation loan were subsequently transferred to Marylands Reserve.

In September 1982 a Town Planning hearing was held to consider an application from the club for a specified departure to build a clubhouse on

the reserve. The following month planning approval was granted and a lease issued to the club to use and build on Marylands Reserve. On 1 March 1983 the terms of the lease of the Marylands Reserve at 19 Birmingham Drive were agreed to unanimously by the committee and the President and Secretary signed the lease as agents of the club and affixed the club's seal to the document.



The Marylands Reserve at Birmingham Drive.

Some of the more important elements of the Marylands Reserve lease are listed below:

"The club covenants with the Council that:-

- (1) it will pay the rent on the date specified*
- (2) it pay all existing and future outgoings payable by law*
- (3) it will not use the land and buildings for any purposes other than normal club activities*
- (4) it will not without Council approval erect, alter, extend existing or any future buildings*
- (5) it will maintain both land and buildings in good condition*
- (6) it will not sub-let*
- (7) it will insure the building and any improvements*
- (8) it will comply with all local authority by-laws*

- (9) after the expiry of the lease, an extension for a further 21 years may be granted provided the Council considers there is a need for canine training and that the reserve would not be better used for some other recreational activity*
- (10) if the land is not being used for the training of dogs the Council may terminate the lease*
- (11) on the termination of the lease the land and buildings shall revert to the Council without compensation to the club*
- (12) the Council may appoint a representative to the club's Committee*
- (13) any rules made by the club for the use, management and control of the buildings must be approved by the Council*
- (14) if the club should breach any condition of the lease the Council may enter and take possession of the premises."*

On Sunday 13 February 1983, a Special General Meeting was held at Marylands Reserve. The following minutes record the proceedings.

"In the chair the President Mr L. Carson. and 56 members.

The Special General Meeting was called to decide whether the club should relocate its training grounds at Marylands Reserve, Birmingham Drive and if so, whether the club should build a clubhouse on the reserve.

The President read to the meeting a resume of events which had lead up to the calling of the Special General Meeting and explained that the club had been using the Marylands Reserve as a training ground over a period of six months and had now received a lease from Waimairi District Council whcih the committee felt was acceptable.

It was moved and seconded that the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club (Inc) be relocated on Marylands Reserve. A secret ballot was called for. Four proxy votes held by the Secretary were accepted by the meeting. Once the scrutineers had counted the votes the President announced that the motion had been passed 57 votes for and 3 against.

The President then explained to the meeting that Town Planning permssion had been granted to erect a clubhouse on the exact site where the meeting was being held.

The meeting was advised that quotes had been obtained for the construction of a building and it was hoped to erect the clubhouse for approximately \$10,000. The Treasurer advised the meeting that to date the

club had approximately \$7,000 in investments and cash accounts. A motion was carried that a clubhouse be erected on the Marylands Reserve on the site for which Town Planning approval had been obtained. "

The club officially vacated 82 Lincoln Road on 31 May 1983 ending a 24 year association with the grounds but not with the owners who to this day are still the club's patrons.

Chapter 5

"You must learn to think like a dog in order to interpret your dog's behaviour and his reactions to your training" - Colleen Cooper.

The club conducted its first training classes at Marylands Reserve on Sunday 16 May 1982. In June of the same year, the committee decided to review the clubhouse plans and investigate the procedures necessary in order to lodge an application for a specified departure with Waimairi District Council. The clubhouse plan was amended to include a pitched as opposed to a flat roof which was in the original plan. A pitched roof was considered more practical and would permit the subsequent addition of a storage loft.

The Christchurch Drainage Board refused the club permission to link sewerage and stormwater drainage systems to the existing industrial systems. This involved the club in additional expense but fortunately the clubhouse site was not too distant from the road.

In September 1982 a Town Planning Committee Hearing was held to consider the club's special departure application to erect a clubhouse on Marylands Reserve. Approval was granted in October 1982 and a lease was issued to the club to use and build on the Reserve.

A building sub-committee was formed at the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club committee meeting held on 1 February 1983. The members were:

- . Mr K. Culverwell (convenor)
- . Mr G. Grether
- . Mr P. Hodges
- . Mr L. Carson
- . Mrs G. Bouterey.

The sub-committee immediately sought quotes for the various tasks involved in erecting the clubhouse and decided to recommend to the full committee that the following organisations be contracted:

- . Tawa Mahi Trust, a work co-operative for Maori youths, to undertake all aspects of the construction except the blockwork,

- . Mr Ivan Smith to undertake the blocklaying,
- . Winstones Ltd to supply the concrete blocks,
- . Peter Stevens Ltd to supply the aluminium joinery,
- . Mr Mark Condon to undertake the drainage work,
- . Taylors Ltd to supply the plumbing materials,
- . Mr Noel Wonnacott to undertake the plumbing work with assistance from club members, and
- . Mr Les Bouterey to supply materials and undertake the electrical work with assistance from Mr G. Grether.

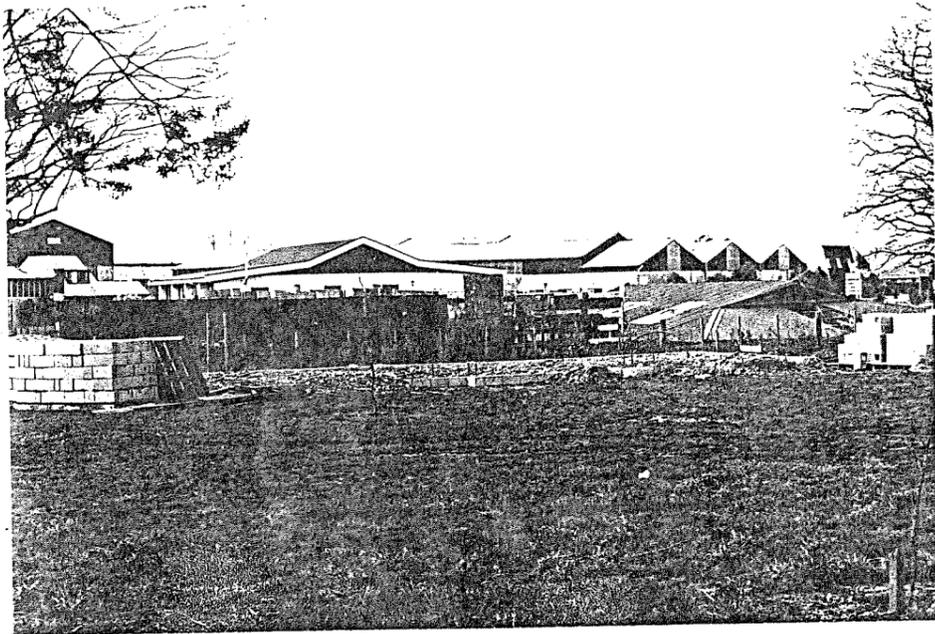
A contract between the club and the Tawa Mahi Trust was signed on 23 June 1983 and work commenced on the site on 27 June 1983. By early September the floor slab, walls and aluminium joinery were complete and the club had temporarily exhausted its available finance. Fortunately the club received an injection of capital from the Waimairi District Council and Ministry of Sport and Recreation at this time and a further contract was immediately made with the Tawa Mahi Trust to complete the roofing and some interior partitioning. Arrangements were also made to have water, electrical and drainage services connected to the building, along with the glazing of the windows and doors.

By early 1984 the clubhouse was being used by club members. During the ensuing period of time, as finance permitted, improvements were made to the clubhouse and grounds. In 1984 the toilets were installed. In 1985 the woodwork was stained, blockwork siliconed and a concrete slab poured under the verandah. In 1986 the club once again commissioned the Tawa Mahi Trust, on this occasion to construct a loft within the clubhouse. This was completed in May 1986. In October of the same year the holes were dug for the poles which would support the floodlights. By January 1987 the outside floodlighting was operative.

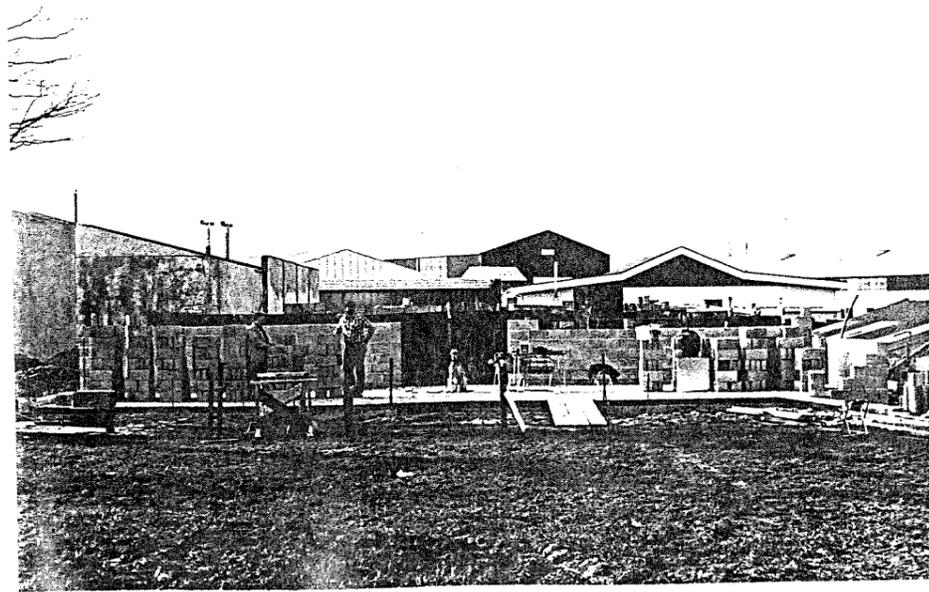
One of the major problems which faced the club at this time was that of finance. A great deal of money was necessary in order to construct the clubhouse, therefore fundraising activities commenced in earnest. The following enterprises were all entered into by the club membership:

champagne breakfasts
raffles
buy a block scheme
dogathons
debentures
chocolate wheels

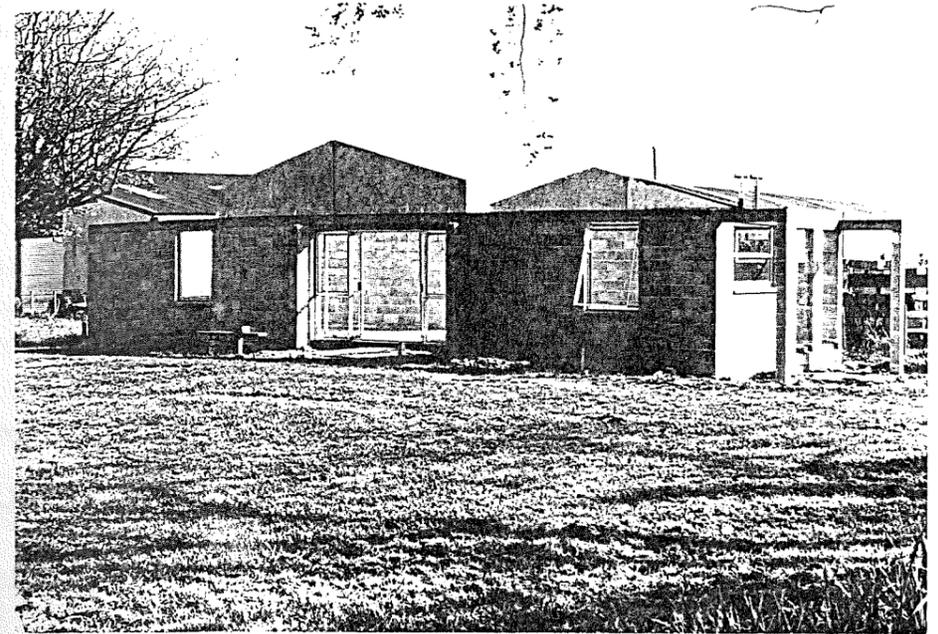
swap meet jumble sales
instant prize stalls
sports evenings
national raffles
produce stalls
sweet sales



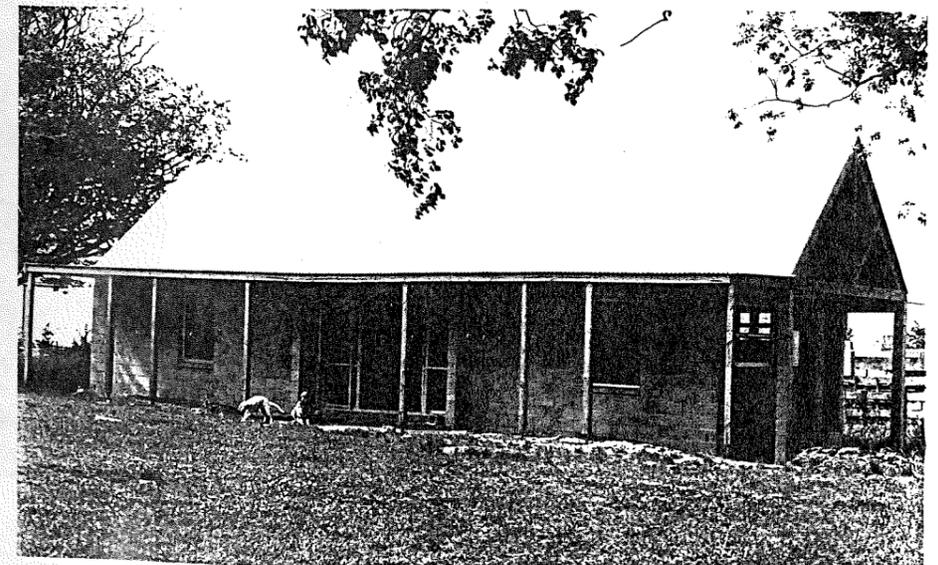
The site of the clubhouse with concrete slab base poured.



The clubhouse starts to rise above ground level as the blockwork begins.



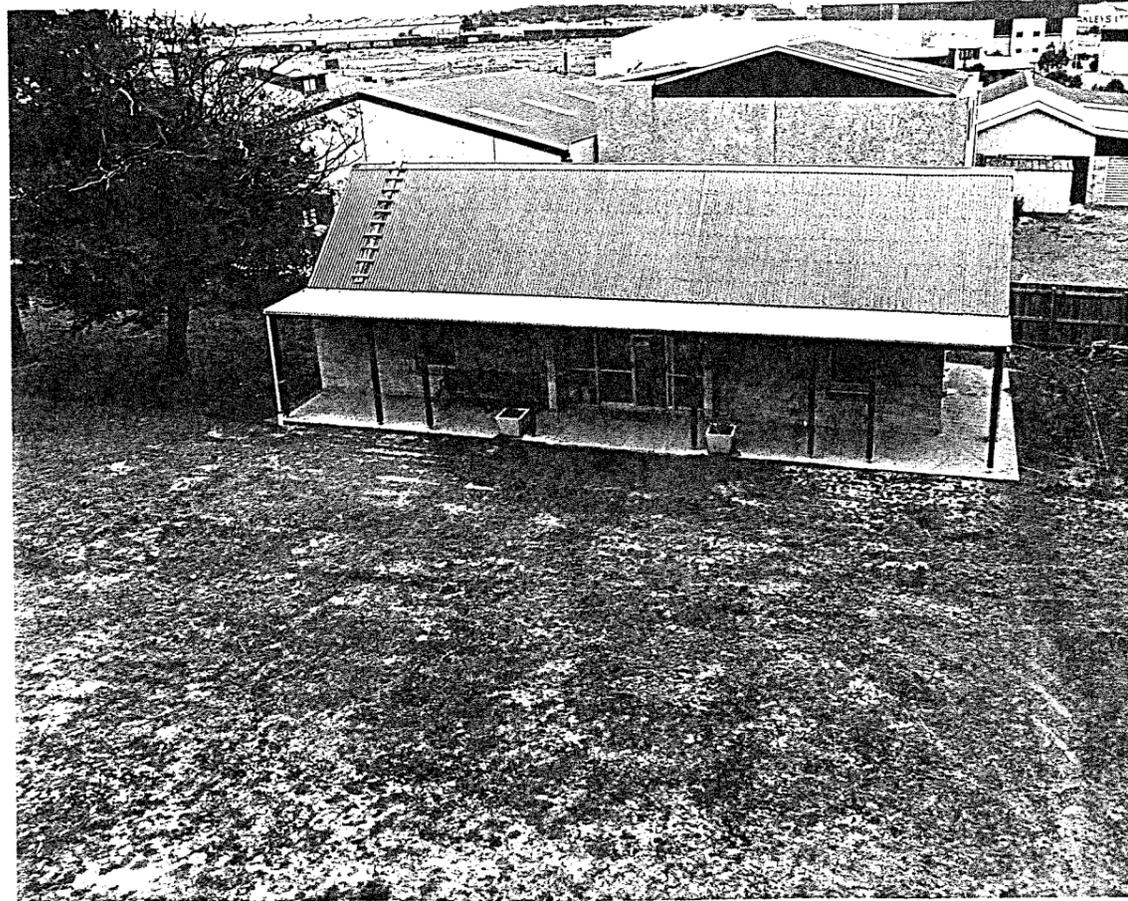
Concrete blockwork complete and aluminium joinery installed.



The basic outer shell of the clubhouse is complete.

The debenture scheme was launched early in 1983. The target was originally established at \$2,000 by way of 10 year interest free debentures with two debentures being repaid annually by selection at the Annual General Meeting. The total sum raised by this source was only \$600 and at each Annual General Meeting one debenture number is drawn.

In August 1983 the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club made an application for funds from Trustbank Canterbury, Ministry of Sport and Recreation and Waimairi District Council (Reserve Contribution Fund). The club was not successful with its application to Trustbank Canterbury but the Ministry of Sport and Recreation allocated a grant of \$2,250 to the club while Waimairi District Council provided a \$6,750 loan at 10% interest repayable over a ten year period.



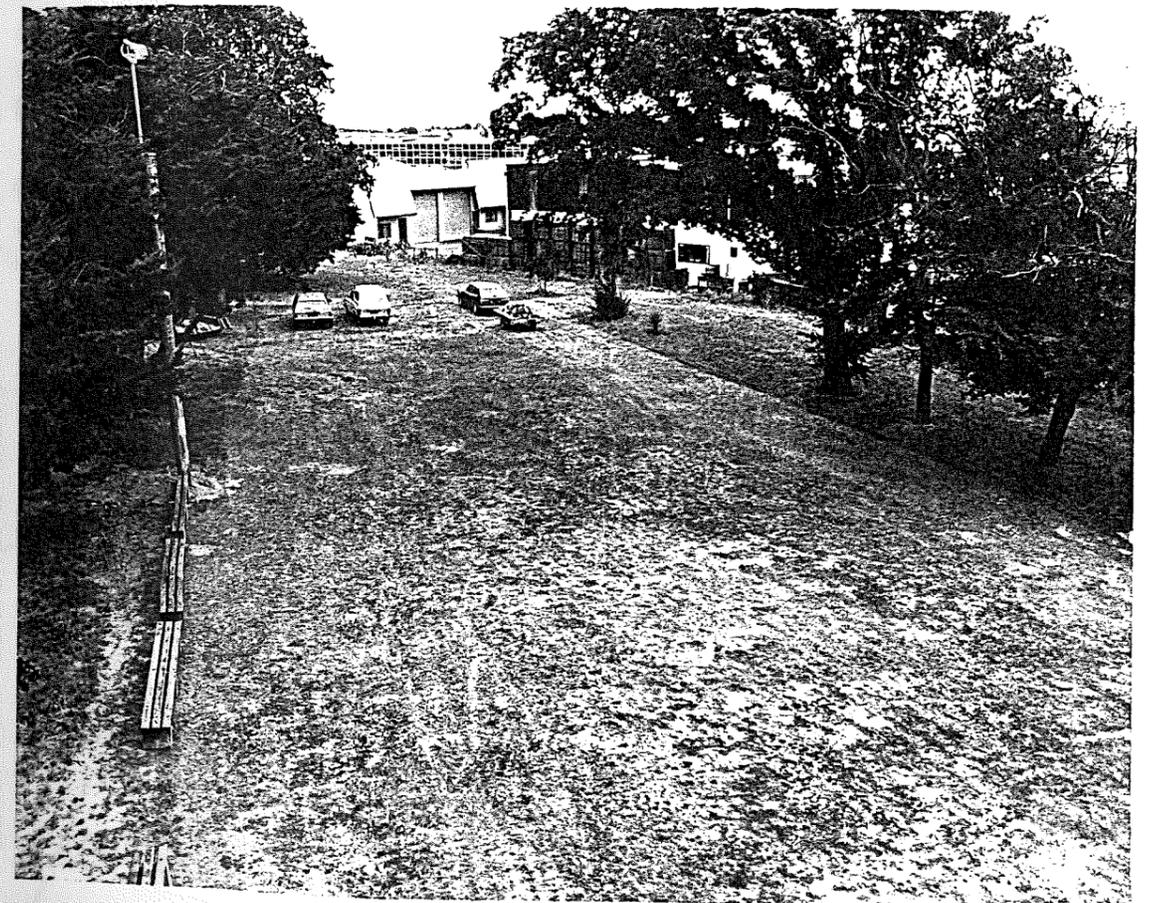
An aerial view of the finished clubhouse.

The Waimairi District Council loan was a significant contribution to the club's cause but it also necessitated considerable thought as to how it could be repaid. The committee decided that the club required income from

an additional source. The committee decided that as all club members benefited from the new training facilities and clubhouse, that all members should share the cost rather than a few stalwart members who always appeared at the innumerable fund raising activities. A recommendation was forwarded to the following Annual General Meeting that a building levy be payable once only by subscription paying members.

The committee itemised four advantages of the building levy:

- . the club is guaranteed sufficient income to cover its existing commitments
- . the committee is relieved of the burden of raising funds so as to administer the club for the members
- . the financial burden is shared over all members
- . any fundraising will be for a specific purpose.



A view of the clubhouse portion of the training grounds at Marylands Reserve.

After considerable discussion, the Annual General Meeting held on 26 February 1985, passed the recommendation by 21 votes to 7 and set the building levy at \$5 for ordinary members, \$7 for joint members and \$3 for junior members.

The Canterbury Canine Obedience Club held its first championship obedience tests at Marylands Reserve on 13 November 1983. In November 1986 the club introduced its "specials" events. The "specials" events are held regularly throughout the year and are based on either an individual or combination of exercises within a single test. Two trophies are available for competition within each test - 10 trophies in all.

The now familiar 8 week introductory training courses for new dog handlers commenced on Sunday 30 August 1987. One or more instructors are given responsibility for conducting an entire 8 week course and provide not only training instruction but also advice to handlers on their legal responsibilities as well as pet care. The course is followed by an assessment test at which one of three certificates is awarded; pass with honours, pass and attendance only (fail!). If a pass certificate is awarded the handler is then invited to join the existing training classes.



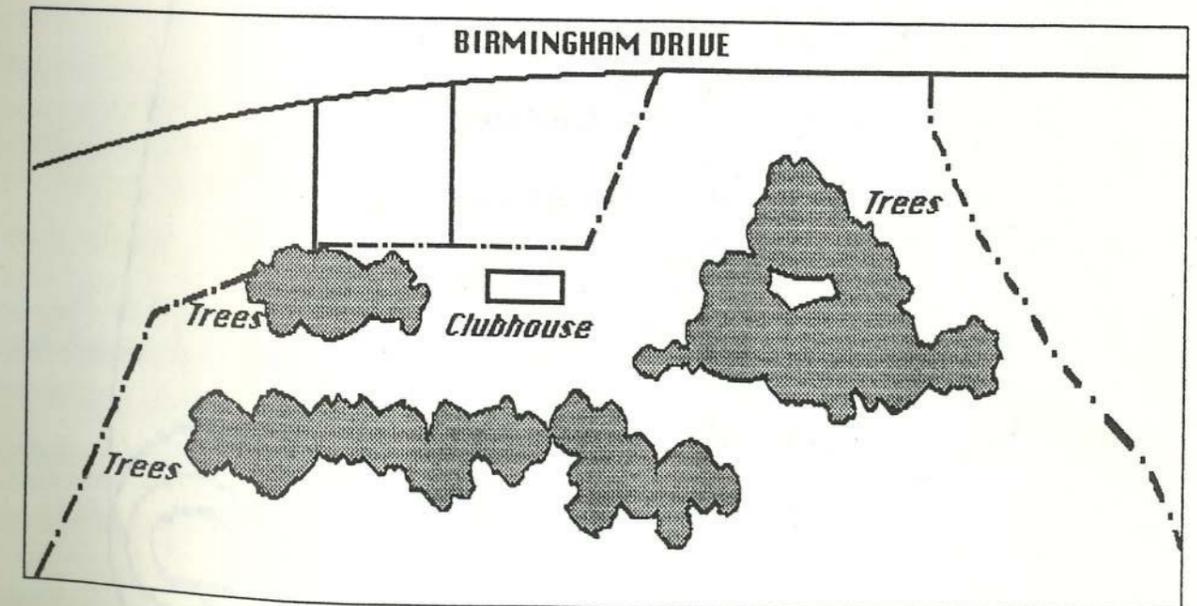
A typical training day at Marylands Reserve.

On Sunday 10 February 1985 a memorial plaque was unveiled by Mr and Mrs I. Carson to honour their son Laurie, who was club president at the time of his death in December 1983. The beaten copper plaque, which depicts the head of a German Shepherd, is inscribed with the words:

"In memory of Laurie Carson, President of this club from 1982 until his untimely death in December 1983. In appreciation of his invaluable contribution."

The committee decided to celebrate the club's 30th anniversary in style. The celebrations commenced with a champagne breakfast prior to the championship obedience tests scheduled for the same day. Special prizes and rosettes were awarded for first to fifth placegetters in all tests. In the evening, after the completion of the tests, pre-dinner drinks were served prior to a seated smorgasbord attended by approximately 50 guests. After the dinner, speeches were given by Mr A. H. Marker, club patron and each of the five judges; Mr Z. R. Colville, Miss J. A. Harding, Mrs C. Marsh, Mr L. W. Webb and Mr A. G. Harris. The Club Captain, Mr J. H. Houghton and Club President Mrs N. J. Baker cut the anniversary birthday cake.

Where will the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club be in 30 years hence? We need not fear about its existence, for so long as there are dedicated dog obedience enthusiasts, there will always be a place in our hearts for, "our club".

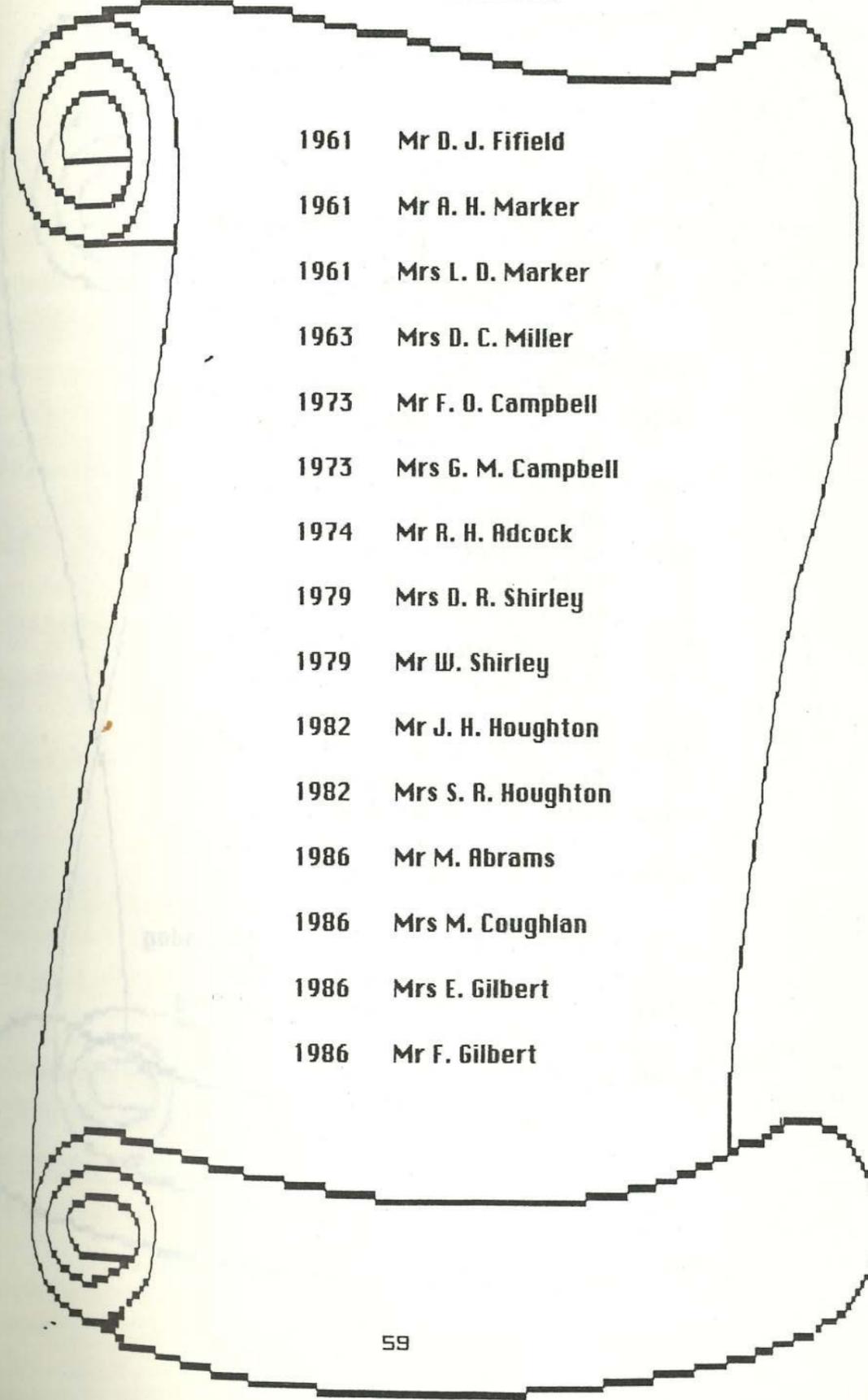


PLAN OF MARYLANDS RESERVE AND SITE OF CLUBHOUSE

CLUB PRESIDENTS

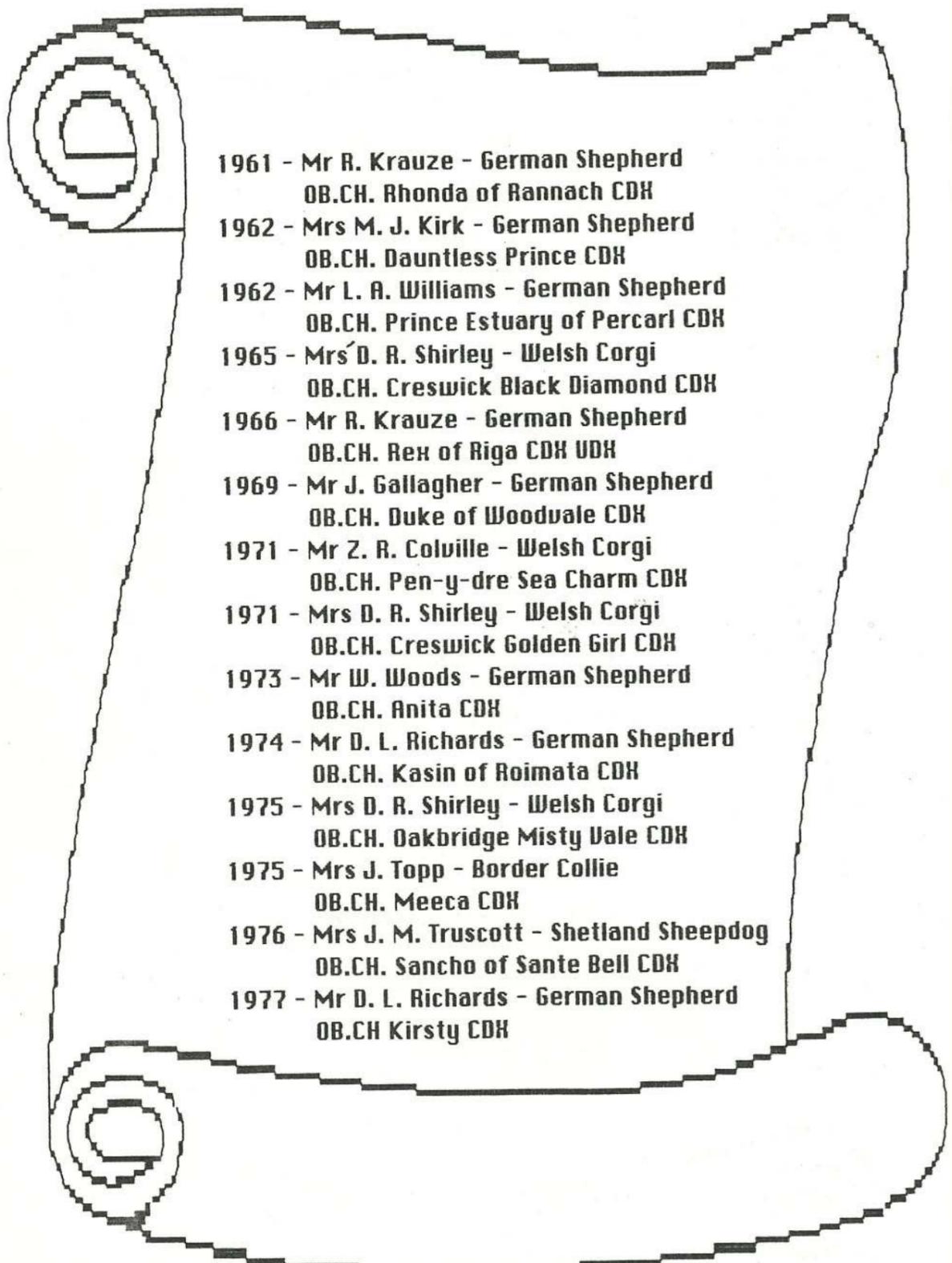
1958	Mr S. F. Wiffen
1959	Mr A. H. Marker
1960 - 61	Mr J. L. Rowe
1962	Mr G. Mathews
1963	Mr A. H. Marker
1964 - 66	Mr A. Carson
1967 - 68	Mr K. Churchward
1969	Mr A. H. Marker
1970	Mr R. H. Adcock
1971	Mr F. O. Campbell
1972 - 73	Mr R. Krauze
1974 - 75	Mrs D. R. Shirley
1976	Mr D. L. Richards
1977	Mr R. D. Syme
1978 - 79	Mr A. H. Marker
1980 - 81	Mr Z. R. Colville
1982 - 83	Mr L. Carson
1984 - 85	Mr F. Gilbert
1986 -	Mrs N. J. Baker

CLUB LIFE MEMBERS

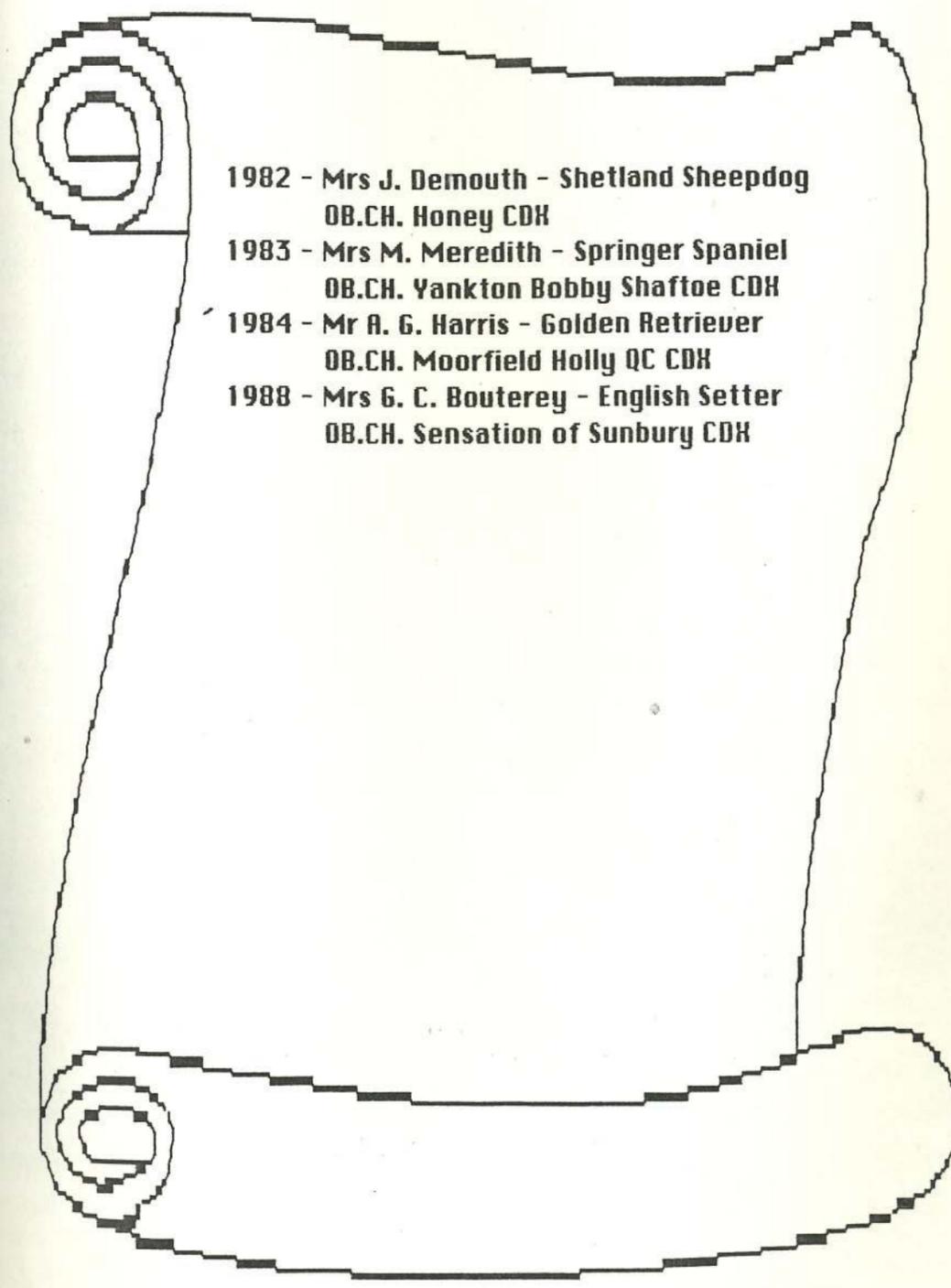


1961	Mr D. J. Fifield
1961	Mr A. H. Marker
1961	Mrs L. D. Marker
1963	Mrs D. C. Miller
1973	Mr F. O. Campbell
1973	Mrs G. M. Campbell
1974	Mr R. H. Adcock
1979	Mrs D. R. Shirley
1979	Mr W. Shirley
1982	Mr J. H. Houghton
1982	Mrs S. R. Houghton
1986	Mr M. Abrams
1986	Mrs M. Coughlan
1986	Mrs E. Gilbert
1986	Mr F. Gilbert

CLUB CHAMPIONS

- 
- 1961 - Mr R. Krauze - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Rhonda of Rannach CDH
- 1962 - Mrs M. J. Kirk - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Dauntless Prince CDH
- 1962 - Mr L. A. Williams - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Prince Estuary of Percarl CDH
- 1965 - Mrs D. R. Shirley - Welsh Corgi
OB.CH. Creswick Black Diamond CDH
- 1966 - Mr R. Krauze - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Rex of Riga CDH UDH
- 1969 - Mr J. Gallagher - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Duke of Woodvale CDH
- 1971 - Mr Z. R. Colville - Welsh Corgi
OB.CH. Pen-y-dre Sea Charm CDH
- 1971 - Mrs D. R. Shirley - Welsh Corgi
OB.CH. Creswick Golden Girl CDH
- 1973 - Mr W. Woods - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Anita CDH
- 1974 - Mr D. L. Richards - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Kasin of Roimata CDH
- 1975 - Mrs D. R. Shirley - Welsh Corgi
OB.CH. Oakbridge Misty Dale CDH
- 1975 - Mrs J. Topp - Border Collie
OB.CH. Meeca CDH
- 1976 - Mrs J. M. Truscott - Shetland Sheepdog
OB.CH. Sancho of Sante Bell CDH
- 1977 - Mr D. L. Richards - German Shepherd
OB.CH. Kirsty CDH

CLUB CHAMPIONS - Continued

- 
- 1982 - Mrs J. Demouth - Shetland Sheepdog
OB.CH. Honey CDH
- 1983 - Mrs M. Meredith - Springer Spaniel
OB.CH. Yankton Bobby Shaftoe CDH
- 1984 - Mr A. G. Harris - Golden Retriever
OB.CH. Moorfield Holly QC CDH
- 1988 - Mrs G. C. Bouterey - English Setter
OB.CH. Sensation of Sunbury CDH