

SOUTHERN BOSTON TERRIER CLUB

NEWS LETTER



Summer 2023- Edition 3

Chairman's welcome-



Dear SBTC Members,

After two years of planning and 15 months of KC process, we were informed a few days ago about the Kennel Club Show Executive Committee's decision not to approve the SBTC on

the newly established grounds of their being insufficient numbers of registrations in our breed to warrant another club.

The first point in the application letter delivered to the KC in March 2022 stated as one of the main reasons for wanting another breed club was the 400% rise in registrations of Boston's between 2008 and 2018. I suspect a similar calculation done now would show a rise of some 500% so to say we were perplexed by this statement and the fact that it had been sent to us

at a meeting which we thought was held to purely to ratify a process that had been assiduously followed without any objections received, and with the full support of all the other Breed Clubs, would be an understatement!

Needless to say, we have appealed this decision for hearing at the KC Board in July, in the meantime, we will continue to operate the Club as we have been for the benefit and enjoyment of Boston terrier enthusiasts and although plans for a partnership show at Ardingly and a BAD this year have had to be halted, we intend to continue with the launch of our website and its development into a site rich with information for prospective and existing Boston owners. We appreciate your continued support and sincerely hope we can persuade the KC of the benefits of another Breed club.

Brian King (Acting) Chair



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Southern Boston Terrier Club

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Torquay Walk

Lucy Dearn

On Sunday 25th March, the SBTC held another walk down in Torquay. This was led by Peter Prior who lives down in this area with his wife Karen, and his lovely Bostons Yoda and Beryl.

Our usual meet up point (The Boston Tea Party) had unfortunately closed it's doors for good, so we decided to wing it and find somewhere on the day.

This time I took my two girls, Honey and Kiki, who had a great time meeting all the other bostons and their owners. Honey in particular loved the beach, she is a real water baby which surprised me as she is such a princess at home.

Our meeting point again was The Grand Hotel, and at 1:00 pm around 20 Bostons were ready to start their stroll.

The weather did not disappoint, as the clouds treated us to some lovely March weather; rain showers! My girls (being prim and proper) trotted along the beachfront in their coordinated coats.

As always, an army of Bostons attracts quite the crowds, and it was lovely to see the smiling faces that our beloved breed bestows upon people.



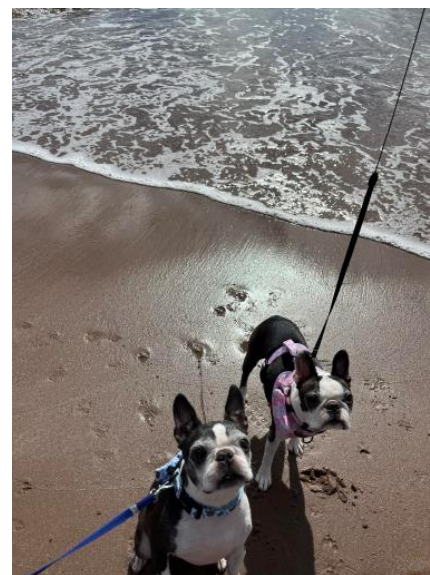
We eventually descended on a restaurant on the sea front that serves everyone's seaside favourite; fish and chips! I must say the restaurant coped very well and accomodated all of the Bostons and their owners which descended on them rather abruptly.

Dogs and their humans alike enjoyed the food selection, however I must say I nearly fainted when I saw the price of fish and chips... £19.25! And then I started to think of all the things I could spend £19.25 but I digress, I am starting to sound like my dad...

My girls enjoyed the occasional chip that made its way from my bowl into their mouths, whilst I enjoyed the curry sauce.

I had a fabulous time chatting with everyone, telling our favourite anecdotes that our Bostons have provided.

I really would invite everyone to join us on our next walk, it is a time to relax and socialise, coming together to celebrate what really matters; our beloved Boston Terrier.



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Kennel Club Lunch

Karen Sandells



The beginning of April saw twenty members of the club travel to London to the newly appointed Royal Kennel Club for a breed appreciation day and lunch.

The weather was a little drizzly when we arrived, but

everyone was warmly welcomed into the lounge and warmed through with a variety of refreshments to start off the day.

From there we were taken through in two groups to the gallery and library for a tour.



In the gallery we were educated on the early origins of the breed. Although there were no Boston art pictures, we did get to see what the now extinct white terrier, pivotal in the foundation of our breed, would have

looked like. We also passed the famous solid silver Keddall Memorial trophy, presented to Best in Show at Crufts, standing very resplendent in its wooden cabinet.

Everyone enjoyed all the pictures, figurines, and smaller trophies on display as well.

Going through to the library the librarian had pulled a table full of the earliest recollections for the breed. Very early books mentioning the Boston foundation, the first Crufts catalogues and a whole host of photographs and books that were eagerly thumbed through by each of the groups.

We returned to the lounge for a pre-lunch glass of bubbles and some bar snacks to chat amongst ourselves ahead of our lunch.

We then went through the dining hall for a beautiful three course lunch, again surrounded by artwork adorning every wall.

The conversation flowed on both tables as we were expertly fed and watered by attentive staff.

We finished with tea and coffee to conclude and were told we could then reuse the gallery and library again to help settle lunch.

For a lot of us within the group, we have never been before, for others this was a subsequent trip.

One thing which was mentioned by everyone was that it was a very lovely trip and should be pencilled into the diary for a return visit as potentially an annual event.



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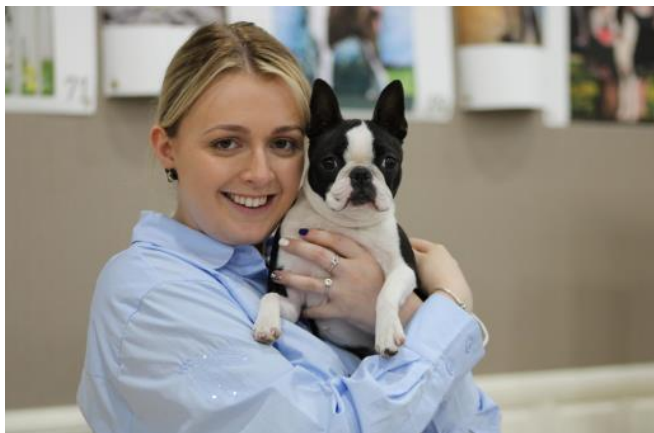
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My trip to the American Boston Nationals 2023

Lucy Dearn



I was asked to write a little piece about my experience at the Boston Terrier Club of America (BTCA) Nationals this year, so I do hope you enjoy.

This was my third time visiting the BTCA Nationals, the first, in 2017 was in Las Vegas, the second in 2022 which was in Denver, and this year it was held at the Robert's Centre in Wilmington, Ohio.



Although this was my third time visiting, the excitement of it all does not diminish. It must be said that our friends across the pond know how to put on an amazing event in celebration

of the Boston Terrier. I think it should be said that if you are serious about breeding and exhibiting Bostons, seeing them in their home country is a must. (Obviously circumstances permitting!).

Ohio was a little bit of a mission to get to! Mom and I started our trip by getting to Heathrow and then flying to JFK in New York. We then had to change and board a flight to Cincinnati. It was a long journey, and we were exhausted by the time we reached the hotel. However, there was little time for rest as the first day of the national was about to commence the following day.

It was around this time that we got to finally see so many friends from the previous years; everyone is so welcoming and friendly, always willing to share their knowledge. It was also nice to see some familiar faces and fellow members of the Southern Boston Terrier Club representing the UK. Steven and Jackie Webb were in attendance, as well as Margaret Wildman and Anna Spenser. I think it can be said that we all greatly enjoyed our time spent at the show. Some individuals had travelled from as far afield as Cyprus, Italy and Australia to be at the show, so it really is a fantastic opportunity to meet and network with people who share the same passion for our breed.

The conformation part of the event takes place over five days, with the host club taking the first two days of events, and the BTCA taking the following three. The host clubs this year were the Boston Terrier Club of Greater Cincinnati, in conjunction with the Detroit Boston Terrier Club.

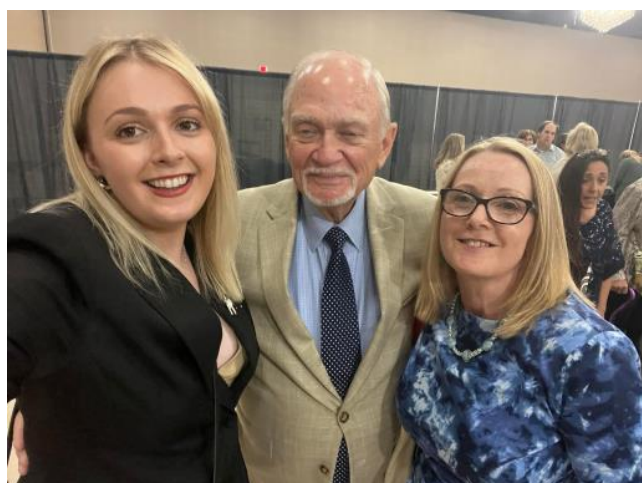
These two clubs host their own shows, and then the BTCA takeover and host their events. There are the standard breed exhibition classes, as well as sweepstakes which are generally for puppies, junior handling competitions and my favourite event, Boston terrier of the Year. Other events take place such as the BTCA AGM, judging seminar with Michael and Beverly Staley (who co-authored



one of my favourite Boston books) and junior handling classes.

The junior handling classes were just a treat to watch. Some of these children were so talented and knew their dogs inside out. They were like professionals and have a very bright future ahead of them indeed, which is reassuring to know that our breed is in very capable hands.

Mom and I attended the seminar last year and I would heartily recommend it. It was very informative and great to hear from such accomplished breeders like the Staleys.



Like I said before, Boston Terrier of the Year is my favourite event. It generally sees the top 30 (ish) Boston's compete for the coveted title of Boston of the Year. It is such an extravagant event.

The evening begins when the four judges are selected. These are pooled from a selection of categories, where individuals can nominate themselves to judge. The categories include AKC licensed breed judge, professional handler, breeder, and multiple breed judge. This year, the lucky individuals selected were Chad Howard, Sherry Patton, Brook Nugent and Tom Davis.

Once judges are selected, the fun starts. Each dog is judged in the ring individually; they enter the ring to a song of their choice, so it is exciting.

Everyone dresses in beautiful gowns and suits, so it really is a special event. It is lovely to see each dog have its moment to shine.

Judges each score the dog individually and the dog with the highest score overall wins. A runner up is announced, and then Boston of the Year. Members of the BTCA also get the opportunity to vote for the people's choice, and the dog with the highest vote from the members also wins an award.

This year I enjoyed Boston of the year with my very good friend Candy Oliver, and we celebrated the occasion with a nice glass of champagne! There is a bar open throughout the event and free canapes are available for spectators which is a lovely touch.



There is also the banquet evening which is so much fun. This is a sit-down meal open for all to attend. This year there was also a speech from the BTCA president Charlie Leavitt, as well as a prize giving ceremony. One prize that is announced is Sportsman of the year which I think is a fabulous thing to celebrate. Too often in the UK do we get caught up in the heat of the competition and sportsmanship can be lacking, therefore, to see it celebrated so actively was a marvellous thing.

Another highlight of the week for me was the welcome event hosted earlier in the week. Here there was another meal and games were hosted.



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It is a real fun way to network and meet people in a relaxed environment.

The prizes on offer are just marvellous, some included camp chairs with embroidered backs stating the win that had been achieved, as well as beautiful artwork pieces. The perpetual trophies really are a sight too.



I saw some beautiful dogs being shown and the standard of grooming, presentation and handling is outstanding and really must be seen to be appreciated fully. The overall standard of dogs being exhibited was high for me personally. Of course, there are good and bad dogs in every part of the world, but there is nothing more special than seeing a beautiful Boston in its county of origin.

I would recommend a trip wholeheartedly! Next year's location is Tampa, Florida. It really would be lovely to see more of the UK's exhibitors there.

SBTC dates for your diary:

- 18th July- Appeal date for SBTC registration status with KC board
- September- meet up at Devil's Punchbowl, Surrey (details tbc)



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