THE 2012
YEAR BOOK
OF THE
ORPINGTON CLUB

2011 CLUB SHOW CHAMPION
DAVID POWNALL’S BLACK BANTAM COCKEREL

PRESIDENT: WILL BURDETT
CHAIRMAN: BRIAN ANDERTON
SECRETARY: ANDREW RICHARDSON
CATTERALL HALL COTTAGE, CATTERALL LANE,
PRESTON, LANCs, PR3 0PA
TEL: 01995 601772
Brian D. ANDERTON
Specialist Breeder of
Black Orpingtons
in Large Fowl & Bantam
Winner of
ALL ORPINGTON CLUB AWARDS
many times
Sixty Three Years in the Fancy
Consistant Supplier of WINNING STOCK
“I still have a few birds left for sale at reasonable prices”
“Consistency is the Yardstick”
President National Federation of Poultry Clubs
PHILIP SMEDLEY
Breeder & Exhibitor of

BUFF ORPINGTONS
in Large Fowl and Bantam

Buff Orpington Breed Club
Secretary for over 20 years
also
ANCONAS
in both Fowl and Bantam (RC & SC)

Consistent Winners with all my Breeds:
Many Best in Shows
Stock Occasionally For Sale

LECKBY HOUSE • FLAXTON • YORK YO60 7QZ
Tel: 01904 468387 • Email: phil.boy@virgin.net
It isn’t just the Queen celebrating a big milestone this year. Sixty years ago our Orpington bantams secured their place in poultry history. It was back in 1952 when I introduced the white and blue varieties that all four colours had their standard approved by the poultry club. Then followed the first ever club show for Orpington bantams held at Bradford.

At the same time on a personal note, this year is my diamond jubilee anniversary with the poultry club. Voted on Council in 1952 I organised the first National Show at Nottingham 1973 (thereafter show director), was Centenary Year President in 1977, won the gold cup twice (with Orpingtons) and introduced the ongoing regional show scheme in 1978 amongst other projects.

During eight decades of service to the poultry fancy I have taken part in every aspect of show and club administration. Various secretary, chairman and president roles including long service with our club. Have seen many changes of course – some not for the better! Yet there are controversial issues that never change. Take for instance Cook and his family’s penchant for creating more and more Orpington varieties, much to the chagrin of the specialists. Move fast forward a century and a quarter to 2012 and the matter of individual colours is arguable now as then!

Another tradition that doesn’t change is our British judging system, but the critics would argue that faults, for example, like poor combs or loose wings or droopy tails as say in Orpingtons are often overlooked in favour of body image and fashion fads. Whereas in contrast under the European grading points system, such faults (and any others) automatically down point the offending exhibit’s score card, that said our established methods are not likely to alter in the foreseeable future.

Moving on to club affairs, the recurring problem with ours (and other clubs) is shortage of year book contributions. In some instances added to by the lack of precise detailed show reports (not like it used to be) to help keep Andrew plus Brian and myself happy, please continue your enthusiastic support by regular AGM attendances, responses to postal voting and maintaining active interest.

My best wishes and enjoy the National and Federation 2012 shows.

Will Burdett MBE
Year book time again, my how the years seem to fly by.

The big event of the year for our club is, of course, the reinstatement to the Poultry Club standards of the colours Jubilee and Spangled not forgetting the Cuckoo’s. Congratulations to the few who have made this possible by their crusade. Let’s hope the Poultry Club’s confidence in reinstating these colours is rewarded in the form of a good representation of them at the National show. We have passed our test, now let’s see if we can drive.

Along with other breed clubs we experience the here today gone tomorrow members, however a breath of fresh air is the emergence of young Ryan Liggett from Northern Ireland. Ryan’s keenness for our breed is reminiscent of David Pownall’s enthusiasm twenty years ago. You will gather from his article in this year book, Ryan has a very mature and thoughtful attitude to his hobby and I feel sure he will be a great asset to our breed.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the National and Federation shows with all the emphasis on friendship fairness and sportsmanship.

Thanks again to our secretary Andrew for “keeping our ship afloat”.
Yours most sincerely
Brian D Anderton

Brian Anderton’s Best in Show Bantam Hen beaten into reserve place by the Lincoln Red Heifer in a Champion of Champion’s contest at the Woodhall Spa Agricultural Show 2012

Brian Anderton with Bantam Hen Best in Show East of England Annual Show 2012
THE ORPINGTON CLUB A.G.M.
HELD AT THE FEDERATION SHOW, STAFFORD
ON THE 18/12/2011 IN ROOM 2 AT 9.30 AM

Present :- The Chairman and 20 members

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Will Burdett, Philip Smedley, Hugh Thompson, Roger Clark, Ian Davis, Fiona Stobinski, Colin & Theresa Habberfield, Rob Allen

2) CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME
Brian Anderton welcomed everyone to the meeting, and as we had now established our club show at the Federation he asked the secretary to write to Adrian Keep to ask for a prime time slot for our AGM meetings in the future
3) **MINUTES OF THE 2010 AGM**
The minutes of the 2010 AGM had been published in the 2011 year book and were read out by the secretary, they were accepted as a true record Proposed by Nigel Allman and seconded by Nigel Pinfield.

4) **MATTERS ARISING**
The standards committee comprising of Brian Anderton, Richard Rowley, Jane Allman and Roger Clark had met at Horncastle Show to discuss and agree on the standard for the three colours we hope to standardise.

5) **SECRETARY’S / TREASURER’S REPORT**
It had been another excellent year for recruitment with thirty one new and lapsed members with a few more being signed up at the show, this increase in membership had once again been offset by the number of lapsed members being struck off, due to the new rule of only sending out year books to fully paid up members only 87 had been sent out, but many more were catching up on their subs at the show and collecting year books due.

Thanks to Nigel and Jane Allman for updating and looking after the club stand and manning the stand at the National due to the secretary's absence, and also for all the work and help that they give me behind the scenes.

Many thanks to Rob Boyd for judging at the National and Hugh Thompson for officiating at the club show.

Matt Hanson has just about taken over the web site, and hopes to have it up and running into the new year, we need to support him by sending him as much material as possible to promote our breed.

There have been many phone calls all year about all sorts of things but there has been very little demand for stock, its nice to see that auction prices seem to have moderated, lets hope prices don't swing too far in the other direction due to the recession.

The club had made a profit of £191.84p this year mainly due to an increase in subscription income of £176 leaving cash in bank at £494.54.

The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Jane Allman and seconded by Penny Strutt.

6) **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
It was proposed by James Finlayson and seconded by Stephen Hodge that all officers be re-elected en bloc.
7) **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**
It was proposed by Penny Strutt and seconded by Mark Rangeley that Jane Allman be added to the committee.

8) **ELECTION OF JUDGES PANEL**
It was proposed by Jane Allman and seconded by Penny Strutt that Matt Hanson be added to the judges panel.

9) **CLUB/REGIONAL SHOWS AND JUDGES 2011**
Richard Rowley to judge the Club Show at Stafford Proposed by Graham Hodge and seconded by Ben Corbett.
Brian Anderton to judge the National proposed by Jane Allman and seconded by Graham Hodge.

10) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
As mentioned earlier the standards committee had met at the East of England show at Horncastle to discuss the standard for the Cuckoo Jubilee and Spangled colours. It was agreed that the standard presented to the last two AGM’s would be accepted with a points allocation the same as the blue.

The secretary was asked to present the relevant information to the Poultry Club council meeting in February and ask that these colours be accepted into the poultry standards.

As liaison with the Poultry Club had proved favourable and we were led to expect our wishes to be accepted Jane Allman and Matt Hanson asked if the new standards could be printed in the next year book.

Also if accepted the secretary was asked to put on classes for AOC at the two main shows.

There was some discussion about the number of colours now available a lot being imported, the chairman blamed it on the Internet.

The chairman ended the meeting by thanking the secretary for all his work throughout the year.

11) **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**
Due to the lack of time the trophy presentations would take place at the club stand at 2-0-clock.
B D Anderton Trophy for Club Show Champion  D G Pownall
G Hamer Trophy for Reserve Club Show  Champion  D G Pownall
Will Burdett Award for Show Champion  D G Pownall
Will Burdett Award for Res Champion  D G Pownall
Jean Bridson Salver for Best Large  D G Pownall
John Locke Rosebowl for Best Bantam  D G Pownall
Trophy for Best Black Bantam Hen  D G Pownall
Wicks Trophy for Best Blue Bantam Male  S A & G Hodge
Smalldon Trophy for Best Blue Bantam Female  F Stobinski
Rob Boyd Trophy for Best Large Blue  Allen & Hanson
A Morris Shield for Best White Bantam  S a & G Hodge
Allman Trophy for Best Large Non Standard Male  N & J Allman
Hildreth Trophy for Best Large Non Standard Female  R Armes
Junior/Novice Shield  Crane & Corbett

Best Black  D G Pownall
Best Blue  Allen & Hanson
Best White  N & J Allman
Best Non Standard

**ORPINGTON CLUB ACCOUNTS**

1/11/2010 - 31/10/2011

**Income**

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**Expenses**

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<td>PCGBAff &amp; Judges’ Lunch</td>
<td>23.00</td>
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**Excess Income over Expenditure £ 191.84**

**Cash in Bank £ 494.54**
Every year I have to write a report for the year book and every year I wonder what I am going to report on, but something always crops up and this year is no exception. By now you will all know the results of our attempt to re-standardise three colours but as the year book is a record of our history it needs to be recorded here.

After a number of AGM’s, discussing the re-standardisation of the Cuckoo, Jubilee and Spangled colours, setting up a standards sub committee and modernising the old standards for these colours, I was asked at the 2011 AGM to submit our request to the Poultry Club of Great Britain Council for consideration at it’s January meeting.

Some of us had sounded out members of the PCGB Council during our preparation time, emphasising that it was a re-standardisation of colours already accepted once by the Poultry Club, and because there had been little support for these colours at the time of the reformation of The Orpington Club in 1975(a club set up to cater for all standard colours except Buff) they had not been entered into the then Poultry Standards. We were led to believe that this argument would be accepted and we would not have to go through the same procedure as applying for a new breed or colour.

I put all the information together and e-mailed it to the Poultry Club in time for the meeting in mid January, only to be informed that the information needed to be with the secretary two weeks before the meeting so that it could be circulated amongst all council members before the meeting. This was probably my own fault for not doing my homework properly, but all the information was with them in time for the mid March meeting.

A few days after the meeting I was called by the standards sub committee, and to my surprise was informed that our request had not been accepted and they required a postal ballot, this was not without it’s work and expense but I sent out the following ballot paper :-

IN ORDER FOR THE CLUB TO RE-STANDARDISE THE JUBILEE, SPANGLED AND CUCKOO COLOURS THE POULTRY CLUB REQUIRE US TO PROVIDE THEM WITH :-

1) THE RESULTS OF A POSTAL BALLOT OF ALL CLUB MEMBERS
2) THE NUMBER OF BREEDERS OF THESE COLOURS
3) NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BREEDERS OF THESE COLOURS
DO YOU AGREE TO THE STANDARDISATION OF THE FOLLOWING COLOURS IN LARGE AND BANTAM?
JUBILEE     YES/NO
CUCKOO      YES/NO
SPANGLED    YES/NO

I managed to send out about half of the 120 ballot papers by e-mail as this would save considerably on postage and also gave us the best response. We had already decided that under our club’s constitution we did not need to ballot members about this item as all decisions had to be voted on at the AGM, but even so some members used it as an opportunity to express their disagreement with our proposals. The response to the ballot was dismal with 36 voting for all the proposals and 4 against, nearly all who voted actually kept one or more of the three colours, all the ballot papers were submitted to the PCGB in time for the May Council meeting and resulted in the letter printed in the news letter and reprinted in this year book.

To say that I was livid at the result was an understatement, at no time had anyone considered this result and at no time had the Poultry Club indicated that they were treating the large fowl and bantams separately, I feel that this conclusion is worse than not having the colours accepted at all, I haven’t checked but we may be the only breed club to have a standard for a colour in large and not in bantam. According to the ballot it could also be argued that there are more members keeping these colours in bantam, and that some of the bantams are superior in type to their large counterparts.

Where we go from here will have to be decided and discussed at future AGMs, what I do know is that it will create more unwanted work for me.

So what else is there to report, all the usual stuff, another good year for recruitment with 29 new members mentioned in the spring news letter but still only 78 renewed subscriptions for 2012 which means that nearly 50 of last year’s members did not renew, but they won’t be reading this year book. Very few requests for stock this year we will have to wait and see if this has a knock on effect on the show bench.

Many thanks to Rob Boyd and Hugh Thompson for doing excellent jobs at the two national shows, and a big thanks to Will, Brian, Jane and all the members who have helped me out over the year with material for the year book and news letter.

See you later in the year.
Andrew
It was with great pleasure that I judged the Regional Club Show at Stoneleigh on November 19th & 20th 2011. Entries were good, particularly the Bantams, however, it was a little disappointing to not see greater numbers in the large fowl.

I was impressed by the general quality of the black Bantams and also the large whites, especially the females, these seem to be showing improvement year on year.

As for the non-standards, the quality of the large fowl mottled winners was striking and these are certainly turning a corner.

Congratulations to both major winners. Mr David Pownall, with a very fit and well turned-out large black hen, which took Champion. Reserve and best opposite size went to G & S A Hodge with a very neat and compact black Bantam cockerel.

**Large Fowl Black Cock – All empty**

**Large Black Hen (4)** 1 empty
   Stand out Champion.
3. D Cook  Similar to second. Incomplete in wing.

**Large Black Cockerel (3)** All empty

**Large Black Pullet (5)** 2 empty

**Large Blue Male (1)**

**Large Blue Female (7)** 2 empty
1. L P H Haylock  Massive female. Lovely ground colour and very well laced. Clear winner.
4. N Lewis  Good eye colour but uneven colour and bleached.
MARK RANGELEY
BREEDER & EXHIBITOR
OF
TOP QUALITY ORPINGTONS
BLACK, BLUE, LAVENDER, GOLD LACED

And THE RECENTLY STANDARDISED CUCKOO IN
LARGE FOWL

WINNER AT THE 2010 CLUB SHOW

BLACK BLUES AND CHOCOLATE IN BANTAM

STOCK OCCASIONALLY FOR SALE

ALSO HATCHING EGGS

ENQUIRIES AND ORDERS WELCOME

CAXTON HOUSE, 54 MANCHESTER ROAD,
SLAITHWAITE, HUDDERSFIELD
W. YORKS HD7 5JA
Tel 07903082334
Large White Male - All empty

Large White Female (3)

A.C. Non-Standard Male (6)  2 empty
3. D Cook  Big bird. Lacks Orpington type.

A.C. Non-Standard Female (14)  2 empty

Bantam Black Cock (2)  1 empty

Bantam Black Hen (6)  3 empty
3. S M Holt  Similar to second but white in lobe.

Bantam Black Cockerel (11)  2 empty
2. H & B Crane & Corbett  Nice type and balance. Good top colour and good eye.

Bantam Black Pullet (16)
2. R O'Rourke  Similar to winner but loose wing spoils.
3. R O'Rourke  Nice type. Fit but smaller than yard mates.
Bantam Blue Cock (1)

Bantam Blue Hen (2)
1. R Stott Ok type. Uneven colour and unfit.
2. R Stott No lacing. Poor eye colour.

Bantam Blue Cockerel (5) 1 empty

Bantam Blue Pullets (6) 1 empty
4. R O'Rourke Brassy colour. Pale lobe.

Bantam White Male (4)

Bantam White Female (5)
2. P E Smedley Lovely type. Handles well and well presented.
      Runs winner close.

Novice or Juvenile Male/Female (2)
1. H & B Crane & Corbett Nice bird. Good type and good colour.
2. R Lewis Good top colour. Fit. Well shown.

A.C. Non-Standard Male (1)
A.C. Non-Standard Female (10) 2 empty
1. L J Rupniak   Nice type. Fit and strong in wing.
2. R Stott       Smaller type bird but very fit.

Trios
Large – no entries
Bantam (2)
   Not up to winners.

Juvenile Competition – Orpington Male/Female (10) 1 empty
2. C D Lewis     Ok type. Fit. Poor wing spoils.
4. R Quinn       Long raggy tail. Poor eye colour.

ROB BOYD
I am not sure about the early history, as I know it, Dr. Clevenger was one of the early members. He was famous for his large Buff Orpingtons. When I first became active there were still folks wanting to know where they could get some Clevenger Buffs. I think Rolo Henrie took over for Dr. Clevenger. Bob Coulter would know more about this. He was closely associated with Mr. Henrie.

Ralph Brazelton was Secretary when I joined. He was Mr. Orpington of the sixties, seventies, and eighties. Ralph had all four varieties of Orpingtons both large fowl and bantams. He was a School Teacher with a small wheat farm at Home City, Kansas. He did a good job as secretary, there was a ALL-Orp every Quarter and an article in the Poultry Press each month. My wife and I visited him at his home on our way to a National in Columbus, Ohio. Also, I met him at an APA national in Arizona. Ralph finally got to the age he had to sell his birds and turnover the Orpington Club to Ken Waller. Ralph and I corresponded back and forth, the last letter I received from him said " keep the bantams going" and I did. I shipped over a thousand Orpington bantam chicks, 25 in a box, through the years.

When Ken took the Orpington club over he got sick and eventually passed away. Ken had put the Orpington clubs money in with his own account and it was gone, The Orpington club drifted into in-activity. Christine Hayes from Sholo, Arizona was president at the time, and after Ken passed away she had an attorney friend write a letter to the attorney handling Ken’s estate and they sent $1300 to Chris for the Orpington Club.

Before she received the money I called her about what was happening to the Orpington Club. She said they were broke, so I sent $20.00 to pay for stamps to mail a letter to the membership explaining the situation. She also asked me to be the interim secretary until they could get someone permanent.

Twelve years later I gave the secretary job up. The first meeting of the reactivated Orpington Club was at the APA National at Vancouver, Washington. I think we had six members, Clarence and Darlene Cannon, Frank Takahashi, John Monaco, Kevin Norelander, Tom Durgin, and Warren Tye. The highest membership got to 137 while I was secretary. A lot of them were members for one year and dropped out. Richard Andre took over from me and then Christina Korfus. They are doing great now and I hope it continues for many years.

Warren Tye - Past president and secretary of the UOC
The Orpington Fowl in America have made a steady growth into popularity over the last five years. Primary due to a few dedicated breeders to this fowl. Also, to the importation of UK birds into America. Buff large fowl in our country have always been in good numbers, the blacks, whites and blues have been very few if even exhibited at shows. The whites were nearly extinct in the US. But with the help of a handful of breeders they are making a comeback! There are a few dedicated breeders to the bantams, Don, Vern, and Warren have helped keep the bantams going for years. There are some new and up-coming breeders working to keep their numbers up. With the new interest of new and old breeders. The importation of English fowl, I think the breed will do good for many years to come. When I started with the Orpington Club, the club was in near inactivity. I had sent several checks for dues. One was cashed and I received one newsletter. About a year later I received a second one. Upset about the way the club was being run by the current secretary and the lack of learning about the breed & its history, I complained. Don Chandler the current president of the UOC and president at the time I complained, said "you sure know how to complain but are you willing to help?" I was quite taken back by this statement and had a little chuckle about it too. I told him that I would help. Don, took over the newsletter for the secretary at that time. Vern Holzhueter the vice president at the time also, called me concerned. We came up with many ideas to work on making the UOC better. Finally, after a short while the All-Orp was getting out again. A year or so later when elections came up, I was voted into office. The membership was around 60 non-expired members when Don took over the membership/newsletters duties. Over the years since 2007 the club has grown tremendously as of today we are at 154 paid members, there are a few that have expired but I know will renew their dues with in the year. It is nice to see this fine breed grow in interest and quality.

The first national I attended was at the 2009 Columbus Ohio show: 41 Large Fowl & 21 Bantams= 62 total / 2010 Orpington National, Stockton CA: 37 Large fowl & 47 Bantams =84 total / Crossroads of America Results United Orpington Club National Show 2011 at America's National Indianapolis, IN .Open Show: For a grand total of 101 Orpingtons

As reflected in the total number of birds exhibited, the Orpington breed is increasing year by year. I am hoping as secretary, with the help of the membership and officers, that we will get to the 200+ mark with membership. The Orpingtons are making a comeback in America and hope it will continue for years to come! We are excited about linking formally to the international clubs. We hope to learn a lot from each other. Until Next Time,
Christina Korfus    UOC Secretary
Keith & Ann
CHATBURN
Breeders & Exhibitors of
High Class
Black Orpingtons
Large & Bantam
We also breed
Light Sussex Bantams
which have a long pedigree of
major show wins

33 Skipton Road, Cononley,
Nr Keighley, West Yorkshire BD20 8NH
Tel: 01535 634 882
It was a great honour to be asked to judge the Orpington Club show 2011, one of my favourite breeds.

Having been snowed in last year and Philip Smedley having to be pulled in at the last minute I had to wait another year. Going over on the boat Steven Johnston, our club secretary at Ballymena said he would steward for me, this helped big time as he did all the paperwork.

On show day a great display of birds were present, large and bantam, all well turned out and some great classes.

The winning black cockerel belonging to David Pownall I made champion, this bird really caught the eye in a strong class. The reserve champion was a large black hen also belonging to David Pownall.

Best Wishes to the Orpington club
Hugh Thompson

**Large Fowl**

**Black Cock(0)**

**Black Hen(5)**
1. D G Pownal (res Champion) Good Fit Hen
2. B Sharp                  Good Type Not Fit Enough
3. M Rangeley               Flights Not up

**Black Cockerel(4)**
1. D G Pownall               Weak Right Hand Wing but Good Type
2. M Rangeley                Weak Both Wings but Great Size

**Black Pullet(9)**
1. M Rangeley                Best Type Good Colour
2. M Rangeley                Decent Bird Drops Tail
3. K Jenkinson               Good Type Fails on Colour
4. Allen & Hanson            Fair Bird Bit Small
Blue Male(4)
1. Allen & Hanson Good Type Well Shown
2. M Rangeley Decent Type Poor Comb
3. B Sharp Big Bird Fails on Tail

Blue Female(7)
1. M Rangeley Nice Type Neat Head
2. L Haylock Best Laced Poor Tail Could Be Cleaner
3. S Holt Decent Bird Fails on Lacing
4. S Holt Smaller Bird

White Male(1)
1. D & J Short Reasonable Type Flights Not up

White Female(4)
1. N & J Allman Broad and Deep
2. N & J Allman Similar to Winner
3. D & J Short Fails on Size
4. C Littler Poorly Prepared

Non Standard M(7)
1. N & J Allman (jubilee) Best Bird but a Bit Leggy
2. N & J Allman (spangled) Good Size Fails on Wing
3. L Haylock (splashed) Broad and Deep Decent Bird
4. R Armes (chocolate) Leggy Poor Comb

Non Standard F (15)
1. R Armes (chocolate) Good Colour Sound Wings
2. N & J Allman (spangled) Good Deep Broad Bird
3. R Armes (chocolate) Smaller
4. K Stratford (cuckoo) Good Size

Bantams

Black Cock(3)
1. S Holt Good Broad Deep Bird Nice Type
2. D Lewis Fails on Comb and Top Colour

Black Hen(10)
1. D G Pownall Nice Deep Broad Hen
2. D G Pownall Very Close to Winner
3. P & T Jones Good Hen Not as Fit as First Two
4. S Holt Tail Not up
**Black Cockerel(17)**
1. D G Pownall (Champion) Lovely Type
2. S A & G Hodge Very Close to Winner
3. S A & G Hodge Similar to Last but Slightly Weaker on Wing

**Black Pullet(26)**
1. D G Pownall Good Depth and Breadth
2. Crane & Corbett Slightly Narrower than First
3. D G Pownall Good Type Soft Lump on Breast
4. S A & G Hodge Fair Bird but Not up in Tail

**Blue Cock(1)**
1. N Pinfield Fair Bird Poor Comb

**Blue Hen(7)**
1. F Stobinski Flight Not up on Right Wing

**Blue Cockerel(5)**
1. S A & G Hodge Good Type Nice Colour
2. S A & G Hodge Similar Bird Fails on Comb
3. R O'rourke Slightly Tall Poor Comb
4. N Pinfield Tail Not up Poor Colour

**Blue Pullet(5)**
1. S A & G Hodge Fair Bird Good Colour
2. S A & G Hodge Fair Breadth Poor Tail
3. F Stobinski Narrow Poor Comb
4. N Pinfield Poor Condition

**White Male(4)**
1. S A & G Hodge Good Colour Lacks Type
2. S a & G Hodge Narrow and Tall
3. P Smedley Narrow and Leggy
4. P Smedley Fails on Wing and Slightly Yellow

**White Female(4)**
1. S A & G Hodge Decent Type
2. S A & G Hodge Decent Type Slightly Long Leg
3. P Smedley Poor Wings Decent Type
4. P Smedley Poor Wings and Yellow Tint
Non Standard M or F (8)
1. S Page (cuckoo)  Good Type Broad and Deep
2. R Bett (chocolate)  Lacks Front
3. N & J Allman (jubilee)  Sound Wings Lacks Type
4. N & J Allman (jubilee)  Narrow

Novice/juvenile (2)
1. Crane & Corbett  Decent Bird Slightly Purple
2. M Rangeley  Weak Wing

Bantam Trio (1)
1. W Burdett MBE  Fair Trio Nice Cockerel

READING BANTAM SHOW 2012

Black Orpington Male (9 in class):  Black Orpington Female (15 in class):
1. S A & G Hodge BEST ORPINGTON  1. S A & G Hodge
2. S A & G Hodge
3. P & T Jones
4. Crane and Corbett

Buff Orpington Male (5 in class):  Buff Orpington Female (4 in class)
1. Teresa Habberfield
2. Samantha Carr
3. Philip Smedley
4. S A & G Hodge

Blue Orpington M / F (6 in class)  White Orpington M / F (4 in class)
1. S A & G Hodge
2. Richard Stott
3. Teresa Habberfield
4. Richard Stott

Non –Standard Male (1 in class)  Non –Standard Female (9 in class)
1. Teresa Habberfield (Gold laced)  1. Richard Stott (Cuckoo)
2. Teresa Habberfield (Jubilee)
3. Teresa Habberfield (Gold laced)
4. Richard Stott (Jubilee)
THE ORPINGTON BREED STANDARDS

Carriage: Bold, upright and graceful; that of an active fowl

Type: Body deep, broad and cobby. Back nicely curved with a somewhat short, concaved outline. Saddle wide and slightly rising, with full hackle. Breast broad, deep and well rounded, not flat. Wings small, nicely formed and carried closely to the body, the ends almost hidden by the saddle hackle. Tail rather short, compact, flowing and high, but by no means a squirrel tail.

Head: Small and neat, fairly full over the eyes. Beak strong and nicely curved. Eyes large and bold. Comb single, small, firmly set on head, evenly serrated and free from side sprigs. In the black variety, comb may be single or rose, the latter small, straight and firm, full of fine work or small spikes, level on top (not hollow in centre), narrowing behind to a distinct peak lying well down to the head (not sticking up). Face smooth. Wattles of medium length, rather oblong and nicely rounded at the bottom. Ear-lobes small and elongated.

Neck: Of medium length, curved, compact and full with full hackle.

Legs and feet: Legs short and strong, the thighs almost hidden by the body feathers, well set apart. Toes, four, straight and well spread.

Plumage: Fairly profuse but close, not soft, loose and fluffy as in the Cochin, or close and hard as in the Game Fowl.

Handling: Firm.

Female
The general characteristics are similar to those of the male. Her cushion should be wide but almost flat, and slightly rising to the tail, sufficient to give back a graceful appearance with an outline approaching concave.

Colour
The blue
Male plumage: Hackles, saddle, wing bow, back and tail dark slate blue. Remainder medium slate blue, each feather to show lacing of darker shade as on back.

Female plumage: Medium slate blue, laced with darker shade all through, except head and neck, dark slate blue.

In both sexes: Beak black. Eyes black or very dark brown, black preferred. Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes bright red. Legs and feet black or blue. Toe-nails white.

Continued on page 26
26 March 2012

Mr A Richardson
Orpington Club Secretary
Catterall Hall Cottage
Catterall Lane
Catterall
Preston PR3 0PA

Dear Mr Richardson

Re: The re-standardization of the Cuckoo, Jubilee and Spangled colours of the Orpington

I write to inform you that at the Council meeting, which took place on Tuesday, 13 March 2012 at Swedenborg House, London, Council approved the re-standardization of the Cuckoo, Jubilee and Spangled Orpington (large fowl only).

Standardization of the Cuckoo, Jubilee and Spangled Orpington (bantam) cannot be approved until Council has been presented with all the required documentation, which includes a full list of breeders.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Ann Bachmet
General Secretary/Treasurer for the Poultry Club of Great Britain
CORBETT & CRANE'S BLACK PULETT

NOT TOO BIG EXCELLENT TAIL CARRIAGE
The black
Male and female plumage: Black with a green sheen.
In both sexes: Beak, etc as in the blue. Soles of feet white.

The white
Male and female plumage: Pure snow white.
In both sexes: Beak, legs, feet and skin white. Eyes, face, ear-lobes and wattles red.

THE JUBILEE
Beak, legs and feet, white. Earlobes red, Face, comb and wattles red. Eyes, red.
Toe nails and skin white.
Plumage of the cock.
Ground colour mahogany of a bright shade, and not dark nor maroon. hackles and back, mahogany, with black centre stripe, mahogany shaft and white tip. breast, thighs and fluff, mahogany, with black spangle and white tip, the three colours clean and distinct and showing in equal proportions, avoiding a ticked effect on the one hand, and a blotchy effect on the other. Wings: Bow similar to hackles; bar, black; secondaries mahogany, black and white; primaries similar but, more white allowed. Tail sickles white, or black and white, or black, white and mahogany; coverts, black edged with mahogany and tipped with white.
Plumage of the hen.
Hackle to match that of the cock. Body, thighs and fluff mahogany with spangles and white tips, similar to the breast of the cock. Wings as the body, but with primaries to match those of the cock. Tail as in the cock.

THE SPANGLED
Beak, black, white or slightly mottled. Eyes, red or brown, red preferred. Comb, face and wattles and earlobes, red. Legs and feet, black and white, mottled as evenly as possible. Toenails, skin, white.
Plumage of the cock.
Hackles, black with white tips. Back, black, slightly ticked with white. Breast, thighs and fluff, black with white spangles, the two colours showing in equal proportions, avoiding a ticked effect on the one hand, and a blotchy effect on the other. Wings; bow similar to back; bar, black; secondaries and primaries black and white, but more white allowed in the primaries or flights. Tail black and white; the sickles and the coverts black with white tips.
Plumage of the hen.
Neck, wings (flights only) and tail, similar to those parts of the cock. remainder the same as the breast of the cock, the effect to be uniform throughout the bird.
(Note, in BOTH sexes the black should have a bright gloss Beetle green sheen, and the white should be pure and bright, the two colours distinct and not running in to each other.)

THE CUCKOO
Beak, white. Eyes, red. Comb, face and wattles and earlobes, red. Legs and feet, white. Toenails and skin, white.

Plumage of both sexes.
Blue-grey (light shade) ground, each feather barred across with blue-black (dark shade) the markings in keeping with the size of the feather.

Serious defects
Side spikes on comb. White in ear-lobes. Feathers or fluff on the shanks or feet. Long legs. Any deformity. Yellow skin or yellow on the shanks or feet of any variety. Any yellow or sappiness in the white.

DISQUALIFICATIONS
Trimming or faking.

Bantams
Orpington bantams are miniatures of their large fowl counterparts and the standard for those should be followed.
The Jubilee Spangled and Cuckoo do not have bantam counterparts standardised

SCALE OF POINTS

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SIZE
LARGE FOWL - MALE min 4.5kg (9.9lb)
FEMALE min 3.6kg (7.94lb)
BANTAM- VISUALLY 25% SIZE OF LARGE COUNTERPART
SUGGESTED WEIGHTS :-MALE – 2.kg ( 4.4lb)
:- FEMALE - 1.6kg (3.53 lb)
WHICH DIRECTION IS OUR CLUB GOING?
WHICH DIRECTION DO WE WANT IT TO?

The Poultry Club Council has recently passed the re-standardisation of Large Fowl Spangles---Cuckoos ----and Jubilees. But require more information (they say in a letter to our secretary) before “they” would consider “passing” the Standard for the bantam variety of the same colours as the Large. Hence the word “ bantam” in the heading of this article ---I am not ignoring the other non standard large colours!!

I am “banging on” about this subject again –as it is the biggest sea change in our breed since I was secretary of the Orpington Club – got to be well over 30 years ago – when I was proud to have my name on the front cover of the newsletters etc alongside such legends of our breed as Will Burdett (Chairman) and Brian Anderton (President) - roles incidentally which were reversed between Will and Brian in recent times. David Pownall - guardian of especially the self coloured Large Standardised Orpingtons today – was just a little lad going round to BDAs for his coffee and biscuits –living on the same street.

Would be very interested to see, read Mr Burdett’s take on the new colours and the fact these birds are gradually taking over in numbers (especially at the two main winter shows) from the self coloured standardised variety. And the future role of the Orpington Club!! Always remember Will saying to me “we need documentation in our newsletters and Year Books, so the future generations can see what we were up to” - Very True - especially in these changing times.

I notice Geoff Hamer and David P in last year’s Year Book held their understandable reservations – if the new off colours get mixed up with the previous “sound” Large Black strains for example. Before I go any further let me throw in another Heading

OFF COLOURED WYANDOTTES

New breeders of especially the Large Variety of Cuckoos.—Spangles—and Jubilees----may be forgiven for thinking “oh here we go another Club Show judge (this year RAR) from the “ old school” who may not give our birds a second glance!!! -----WRONG-----
When my father was alive and that is over 30 years ago – I bred every colour Wyandotte I could get my hands on and crossed white with black to get Creles. And even crossed “pencilled with the laced variety” and took the off spring to a “World leading geneticist” the late Great Clive Carefoot for his analysis of the off spring.

This was after I was judging with Geoff (Professor) Parker and upon asking Geoff what he thought the “off spring” would be like - he exclaimed “Richard I can tell you what half of the chickens will perhaps represent – but for the other half especially you will have to go to the “genetic master” -- Dr Clive C.” Still trying to understand fully Clive’s book he wrote on “Creative Poultry Breeding”.

I mention and write this paragraph to hopefully show I am not against experimenting - and can understand the fascination of now perhaps mainly “Internet - “sitting egg buyers” –who want to see new colours –and some -- make a fast “buck”.

**BUT BUT BUT**

I bet it is not uppermost in most new experimental breeders’ minds of the word STANDARDISATION---but more like the recent rise and fall of the price structure of the chocolate Orpington. Making hundreds of pounds for one bird (Melton Mowbray Auctions) – to now where one “chocolate breeder” told me sometimes I can’t give them away now. I bred some choc Orpington bantams and was very pleased with the type and colour.

While under the heading of Wyandottes -- I’ll be very interested to see how the Chocolate Wyandotte future “fairs”. Richard Davis has done a lot of work with “these” and has put the correct procedures, time and effort into place for their “standardisation” future.

I don’t know yet of many Orpington off colour breeders who have done the same?

Jane Allman please “don’t let my tyres down,” I know no one has worked harder than you – a real beacon and stalwart for our club and a lady who has worked hard to help standardise the recent Large three new colours. Jane was at the meeting we had with Brian Anderton, Roger Clark and Yours Truly when the Standardisation issue of the large Orps took a “big step forward .”
CAVEAT EMPTOR

When I was studying for my banking exams I remember this phrase ---it means “let the buyer beware”. Our secretary (Andrew R.) makes an excellent point in a recent publication of sitting eggs being bought in good faith but sometimes contents of these eggs don’t match up to their description (to put it mildly). And Mr Richardson often “ cops for the flack” from irate purchasers –when often “they are not even members of our club”. If you look in a shop window you can SEE WHAT YOU BUYING

White Orpingtons

Human nature being what it is ---often (including myself) is reluctant to change. Classical example of this is the weighing of our birds experiment –some years ago –ask Geoff Hammer about what happened at that A.G.M.

And I have to admit I have more empathy with Graham Hodges’ attempt to improve the White Orpington (that Will Burdett started off) -- than pick say the “lemon cuckoo Columbian” from the list of Orpington Colours available on the INTERNET (June 2011) and listed in our 2011 Year Book on page 36.

SUMMARY

I don’t want a medal (because –especially as the club’s Vice President) I am interested in which way “our” club goes!! Andrew R emailed all members (that are on net) asking for articles for the year book (some thing I have been doing for two other breed clubs I am the Chairman of) ---But I have had to get up at 3.30 am to write this script ----it’s a hobby and we do what we WANT TO –accepted ----but please if my efforts have converted just ONE armchair critic to be proactive (in other words contribute) rather than reactive (ie moan if they think some thing has been missed out of the year book etc ) – then it will have been worth it.

Come and have a chat at the Fed (or National) --what we certainly do not want is a split club and I think with cups now for non standard –and members like Jean Allman, Paul and Tina Jones, Graham Hodge and David Pownall etc (forgive me I do not know all the new young breeders -- which is why I say come and have a chat ) then as the “ dilettante boss of Bargain Hunt on BBC 1 “ Says “ we are in safe hands .

RICHARD A ROWLEY
TO ALL ORPINGTON BREEDERS, HELLO FROM THE ORPINGTON CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

The showing time is here (May to July) and Orpington fowls have featured in the winning line up of many regional and specialist shows.

The Canberra National Show was an outstanding success. With an overall exhibit number of 5,246 and an Orpington Entry of 190. 127 of these were Orpington large and 63 were Bantams. A Black Large Orpington Cockerel managed to storm into the ‘Reserve Soft Feather of Show’ position. He was owned by the President of our club: Martin Doulton. Martin is the new President of the club taking over the reigns from Dallas Smith. Dallas has served the Orpington breed and our club extremely well, giving many years of expert guidance; his shoes will be hard to fill. Every four years (the year of the National Canberra Show) the Orpington Club holds a Northern Feature in New South Wales and a Southern Feature show in Victoria. This enables the club to make a bit of the ever necessary cash to run its Orpington Features at Royal Shows in the furthest extremities of this very large country to foster our breed and give the members of our club from there some assistance.

A visit to Canberra by Chris Palmer, President of ‘The Poultry Club’ was a wonderful surprise. It was our pleasure to welcome him into our fold and enjoy his company. Judging by his cheery manner and his luminous smile whenever I was in his company, I think he enjoyed himself. Chris has received some expert language guidance and now can say ‘Chooks’ just like any Australian.

It was also a pleasure to welcome Graham Hicks (Judge of Waterfowl) to Australia. They brought with them a few sunny days; the change of weather was very welcome.

The link with the Orpington Clubs in the UK bring a comforting feeling to the Australian Orpington breeders. Having people with like interests on the other side of the world that share their knowledge makes for greater enjoyment. Thank You. I look forward to meeting you all someday.

Robert Callinan
President of ‘The Orpington Club of Australia.
June 2012
BLISS

The place was full, the chooks were loud, their music filled the air,
With people smiling, people laughing, fun was everywhere.
The Orps were benched, the judge was set, the breeders sitting ready,
When in he walked and calmly said: Hey my name is Freddy!

I know I’m late but can I still bench my cockerel.
His slip was read: “You’re in 36”, so he gave his kids a yell,
“Its ok boys lead him in, but we’ll have to be real quick,”
They brought him in like a dog on a lead with twine around his neck,

The bird sure was a different sight, he was red and black and blue,
With white and yellow spangled tips on green black feathers too.
They put him in development row in ‘colours still underway,’
I couldn’t believe the faces on the crowd that day.

The stately judge stood aghast; “what will I judge him too,
The type’s not bad but colour wise I don’t know what to do.
You’d better hold a meeting and sort this quandary out
Before I get to that birds class,” the judge began to shout.

The show committee all stood erect, they knew the task at hand,
For no better committee members could be found across the land.
“Just judge the type to the standard,” the first man began to say,
“But what about the colours” the others began to neigh.

“Well: Call it a black red blue white spangle with a yellow lacing tip,”
Then a quiet fell on the meeting and the chairman let it rip.
“I told you this would happen, it was a sure thing bet,”
“Hang on mate!” the group all said we can still fix this up yet.

Type and points are worth just sixty five; colour is worth the rest
There’s five colours to choose from, give a point score for the best.
The group agreed, the show went on, the crowd all gathered round,
The judge addressed the coloured birds with a look that was profound.

Well, this one’s got me stonkered, his type is very sound,
He has the best body here, he’s the best bird to be found.
His colour is a challenge but as per the direction given,
I’ll divide the colours into five and score them out of seven.
Well the black is with a nice green sheen, I'll give to it a seven,
Now; the red, it’s not a bad one, I’ll give it four to make eleven.
The others are worth just five points each that makes it twenty six,
So a total score of ninety five puts this rooster through the sticks.

He marked the bird with champion, the crowd just stood aghast,
As far as judging appointments this was sure to be his last.
There was a deal of chatter, plastic cups flew in the air,
While the stewards and the judge all went to the you know where.

They did a lively runner whilst the crowd just boo’d and hissed,
People were even saying the judge is surely drunk.
At the ribbon presentation the mood was pretty poor,
When Freddy took the trophy and bolted across the floor.
His kids clustered at the door wondering why the folk were rude,
While the brightly coloured rooster just cockadoodle doo’d.
It goes to show as we should know, if colours aren’t your cup of tea
There is a chance they’ll still enhance the shows for you and me.

Robert Callinan©
After the Northern Orpington Feature at Castle Hill Show Ground, Sydney.

FAMOUS CHICKEN QUOTE
“The codfish lays ten thousand eggs
the homely hen lays one.
The codfish never cackles
to tell you what she’s done.
And so we scorn the codfish
while the humble hen we prize
which only goes to show it pays to advertise “
Anonymous

Thomas Jefferson raised bantams
Henry Ford meditated in his chicken coop
Babe Ruth and Dizzy Dean both kept Rhode Island Reds
Rudyard Kipling was an early breeder of Light Sussex
President Lynden Johnson kept Silkies
Actor Danny Kaye bred fighting chickens

Did you know?
TAIL CARRIAGE

Over the last few years there has been much written and debated about weights, size of bantams, non standard colours and the standardisation of new colours. I would like now to return to a subject that is very close to my heart and affects all sizes and colours and that is tail carriage.

The Poultry Club standard for the Orpington male asks for “Tail rather short, compact, flowing and high but by no means squirrel tailed” and for the female “Her cushion should be wide and flat rising to the tail to give the back a graceful appearance with an outline approaching concave. The Poultry Club standards can be open to interpretation with many grey areas, as to what constitutes large, medium, short, long etc. But two main points to consider in our breed’s standard: one is the fact that squirrel tail is mentioned, indicating a high tail that must not get too high, but must be interpreted as at least a tail of forty five degrees or above, and secondly the word “concave”, this is the classic profile of our breed, this can be achieved in both sexes. We must not forget that the Orpington has to have a back albeit a short one, the neck hackle should not cover the tail hackle as is sometimes the case with Wyandottes.

When judging a class of livestock of any description the judge should first go through the entries and look out for the exhibits that sell themselves, these are the ones that are fit and healthy, stand proud and automatically display breed standard.

Far too many of our Orpingtons tend to sit in the corner of the cage and have to be physically lifted into an exhibition pose, more often than not refusing to hold their tails up. As Orpington judges we persevere to find the best bird, but as winners go up to championship row it is far too easy for a championship judge to disregard a bird that shows these lethargic traits, especially after a long day and having been in and out of the pens a few times.

If we (or is it just me?) have identified a problem, how has it come about and what can we do about it? As a judge I look for breadth of feather in soft feather breeds but nowhere in the standard is breadth of feather mentioned, what is broad? what is narrow or too narrow, all birds have the same number of feathers its just that a turkey’s are so much broader than a rosecomb’s, is this were we are going wrong?

Unfortunately I must now bring up the size issue particularly in bantams, I believe that in our drive for size we are breeding for a wider softer feather at the expense of the stiffness in the tail, how big is too big? In the early nineties
I can remember such illustrious breeders and exhibitors as Trevor McCullough, Clive Carefoot, Robert Wilson and Maurice Jolly showing birds with tremendous stiffness in the tail, and nearly achieving the weights of the old standard all displaying the classic Orpington profile, we have added more width and feather to today’s bantam but have we gone over the top? At the same time the large fowl males were showing some extremely wraggy tails probably held too high, these have now been corrected, size has been added as well and more size is needed, but this should be selected for on size of skeleton and bone quality and not solely on profusion of feather. The standard asks us for “Fairly profuse feathering, but close not loose and fluffy as in the Cochin. So if we bred for a little more stiffness in the tail and a slightly narrower feather can we get rid of all the fluff around the shanks, low tails and that irritating bump too many birds display where the saddle meets the tail.

All this came about at the Club show where there was much debate about a particular bird that had achieved a second prize because it had low tail carriage, I don’t care how big it was or how much feather it had, it had poor tail carriage which is a major fault and birds with major faults do not win prizes.

Andrew Richardson

"THAT OLD CHESTNUT"

I'm referring to the on going topic of weights in "our" Orpingtons. The problem we have is the standard doesn't have a maximum weight just a preferred weight so what do we breed to? Unfortunately I wasn't breeding Orps when Roger won supreme champion with his Orp male but I would love to know the weight of this bird as a comparison for today's show birds & if it was over 4.5lbs then I don't understand where the conclusions of local judges are that the Orps of today are a lot bigger than they used to be. The only evidence I have is poultry club rings for females don't fit the leg by the time you know it's a female.

We show up & down the country & constantly come up against judges who are under the impression the Orpington is far too big these days, therefore they rarely get considered for top honours. My thoughts to solve this problem are to breed 2 sizes of Orps, 1 size to compete at local shows & 1 size for the classics, which is ridiculous. Last year I was ready to give up showing Orps & the reason being I tried to breed birds of correct type but of correct weight for the big shows & as I found out at the national my females didn't get a consideration as they were a third smaller than the winners which when we weighed them were over weight, although we have no maximum weight, we were going off 3.5 lbs max.
When I got home I had to look round to see if I had any big birds to compete at the club show which was soul destroying to have to do that after breeding to bring the size down a bit. I even sold larger birds early & kept smaller ones, & was beaten a few times by these birds.

My conclusion is that our club can make the decisions needed if they want our Orps to be as big as they are getting then so be it, but if they want them to be able to compete for top honours not only at the classics but at local level as well then a maximum weight is needed which would also aid judges when judging Orps at any level. If the weight is put to a maximum by the club, then club judges could be informed & we could weigh birds at the Fed & National and not judge over weight birds. This would then in turn encourage the exhibitors to weigh birds before selecting for show & wasting entry money on over weight birds. The problem is how to bring down the size of your birds but I think if you breed later in the year & use pullet eggs you should get smaller birds, then use them to bring size down eventually. The only thing is if we did change the standard it could take a couple of years to get the ball rolling & see the benefits of lighter exhibits in the show pens of the same quality but less weight.

This article is just my opinions & thoughts on how we could possibly solve this on going issue, I don't think anything will come of this article & I don't think I am the first to bring up this ongoing debate but at least nobody needs to ask me what I think about weights as I have put pen to paper. If possible I would love to weigh the black bantams at this year’s club show then bring up the findings at the meeting.

I know this weight problem seems to be an issue in a lot of breeds but us, as members of the Orp club, are the only ones who can change things if we decide to. Like I found out though, it's no good 1 breeder trying to make changes it's got to be agreed by all so we all sing from the same hymn sheet.

Graham Hodge (S A & G hodge)

ORPINGTONS MY PASSION

Hello my name is Ryan Liggett and I have been keeping Orpingtons for nine years. I was given my first bantam Orps after a local poultry show after I met the judge, a kindly gentleman Mr Chris Laird. These were not show birds which I did not understand at the time in his words “these are breeding birds “ and bred from them I did. The hens were very typey but lacked the width to
challenge for main awards. My main competition at the time was a Mr Gordon Walker. On acquiring some birds (in fact he sold me a hen that won four BIS awards, not many will do that for you) from him I blended them with my original birds and their offspring. This is when I started to come into contention at the shows with my birds winning a few best Orps with my females and occasionally with my males. I used these birds as my main breeders for the 2008/2009 season from which I won best heavy and two best in shows alongside numerous best of breed awards.

Colin Clarke, upon awarding me best in show with one of that seasons pullets, had told me that my pullet was as good as any he had seen at the Federation show that year. It wasn’t until the next year did I get my first visit to the show and saw for myself the fantastic show of Orpingtons which are always present at the show. The best exhibits are something to behold, I thought I had died on the boat journey over and had gone to heaven. In order to get over, my mum and I organised a bus trip and lets just say that as many birds took up seats as people. Unfortunately I was still attending school at the time and as such had winter tests the week before the show, therefore there was no time to properly prepare birds and there is definitely no point in putting in only half prepared birds. The other problem was I was doing my judging test and was doing some very interesting revision, even our study hall attendant did give me some very humorous looks and remarks.

Anyway the first thing I noticed at the show, and continue to notice on repeated visits, was the size difference in bantams between what was being shown over here in Northern Ireland and on the mainland. These birds had the shape and most of them had the top colour but the eye colour was disappointing with some otherwise very fine exhibits. Also some had the dreaded cochin cushion. It is however pleasing to see that wing carriage has improved vastly over the few visits. Back to the issue of size, there are some birds out there that, lets face it, are far too big to be worthy of the title of bantams, more like undersized large fowl. I know that the bantam has improved vastly in type over the years going by photos from the past. However I believe that this improvement has come at a cost in terms of increased size. I am not saying that we should start a race to breed smaller birds at the expense of this superior type instead keep the shape and width and gradually select towards smaller birds. Also I am not suggesting the under nourishment of birds, some are big and within the weight limits, whereas smaller birds can retain the required body and just sit nicely in the weight limits. This problem will only be fixed if judges start to put up the birds which are smaller but retain type along with all the other required characteristics for top awards, instead of just putting up the bird that fills the
pen which can sometimes be found with judges across here and I am sure this experience can be found on the mainland as well.

If I may quote the British Poultry Standards, which is after all what we should all be breeding towards Plumage: fairly profuse but not soft, loose and fluffy, as in the Cochin.

Sadly a lot of large females are so soft in the feather that they are unable to show the correct type; i.e., can’t hold the tail up, and I know this can be to do with fitness, some even have cochin cushions, and male birds with shredded tails don’t get me started. Eye colour must also be watched closely as one exhibit at this year’s Federation show had red eyes (it was not a buff or a white by the way). I have wondered have such problems been introduced via the rapid inclusion of continental bloodlines? I am outlining my thoughts on the breed in its current state, I am not slagging any person’s birds I am just saying that these faults are visible from the show pen therefore we must guard against them in the breeding pen. My birds are not perfect they are very much a work in progress. If my breeding experiments are fruitful I will be more than happy to exhibit some of the birds at the mainland shows. Therefore I walk the walk not just talk the talk.

When Brian asked me to write this article he told me to keep it light and if possible throw a few jokes in. Therefore I will let you all into one of my “trade secrets” I discovered this whilst watching a documentary on Orang Utans. Apparently to ensure breeding success the great apes were fed bananas by the ton. It is apparently a great natural aphrodisiac. I was ten at the time and obviously didn’t know what this was but I thought that if it could help monkeys breed it may help me get more fertile eggs in the incubator, I tried it that year and my fertility increased dramatically. However I continue to do so and the poultry’s fertility rate rarely falls below 80% except in exceptional circumstances i.e., cold snaps. This doesn’t mean all eggs will hatch but it is a good start as no fertile eggs means no chick. I have used it with older large fowl and it does have the desired effect, in fact this year one of my bantam breeding cock birds was well into his sixth year and still filling plenty of eggs with plenty of hens as I don’t personally pair mate unless forced to.

I will finish on this note, thank you for taking the time to listen to me and good luck rearing the future champions. Remember folks don’t eat too many bananas you don’t know the possible results.

Ryan Samuel
John Liggett
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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1976  D Copas  Large Black Hen  Club Show
1977  W Burdett  Large Blue Hen  Club Show
1978  W Burdett  Black Bantam Ckl  Club Show
1979  W Burdett  Large Black Ckl  Club Show
1980  W Burdett  Large Black Cock  Club Show
1981  Dr W C Carefoot  Black Bantam Ckl  Club Show
1982  W Burdett  Large Black Ckl  Club Show
1983  W Burdett  Large Black Pullet  Club Show
1984  W Burdett  Large Black Cockerel  Club Show
1985  S Adcock  Large Blue Male  Club Show
1986  Dr W C Carefoot  Bantam Black Pullet  Club Show
1986  Anne Rolls  Large Black Pullet  National Champion
1987  G Hamer & Son  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
1988  W Burdett  Black Bantam Pullet  Club Show
1989  D Phillips  Large Black Cockerel  Club Show
1990  Clarke & Godfrey  Black Bantam Pullet  Club Show
1991  R Clarke  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
1992  R Clarke  Black Bantam Hen  Club Show
1993  R Clarke  Black Bantam Pullet  Club Show
1994  R Clarke  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
1995  G Hamer & Son  Large Black Hen  Club Show
1996  N Watson  Large Black Cockerel  Club Show
1997  R Clarke  Black Bantam Pullet  Club Show
1998  R Clarke  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
1999  B D Anderton  Large Blue Female  Club Show (Blsf)
2000  B D Anderton  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
2001  B D Anderton  Large Black Hen  Club Show
2002  B D Anderton  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
2003  G Hamer  Black Bantam Hen  Club Show
2004  B D Anderton  Large Black Hen  Club Show
2005  No Show Avian Flue
2006  R Clarke  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
2007  D Pownall  Large Blue Hen  Club Show
2008  B D Anderton  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
2009  M Hanson  Large Blue Hen  Club Show
2010  R Boyd  Black Bantam Cockerel  Club Show
2011  D G Pownell  Large Black Hen  Club Show
# Roll of Honour

**Federation Champions**

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S A & G HODGE

Breeders and Exhibitors
of
Orpington Bantams in
Black, Blue and White

Buff Orpingtons
in Large and Bantam

Also

Champion Breeders of Black Rosecombs
As well as Blue White and Columbian

Other Breeds Are
Gold, Silver and Pile Dutch
Black German Langshans
White Call Ducks

When Available Stock
Can be Pre-Ordered

Contact Graham on 07904014448
Or Stephen on 07791382230
Or e-mail us at graysamdan@sky.com
List of Members

KEY (to Colours Kept)

A - Large Black, B - Large Buff, C - Large Blue, D - Large White, E - Large Cuckoo,
F - Large Spangled, G - Large Jubilee, H - Bantam Black, I - Bantam Buff,
J - Bantam Blue, K - Bantam White, L - Bantam Cuckoo, M - Bantam Spangled,
N - Bantam Jubilee; O - Large Non -Standard, P - Bantam Non Standard

S W Adcock
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Mr R Allen
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Nj-orpingtons@hotmail.com

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Mr B Corbett
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I Davis
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Ms K Dean
N r Ware, Herts 01920 823504
Karendean1@btinternet.com
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<td>Mr C Emmanuel</td>
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                         Cherie.sharp@sky.com
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                         Lespither@googlemail.com
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                         Porter717@btinternet.com
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                         Davidp@riversidecottage.wanadoo.co.uk
Mr M Rangeley            Huddersfield, W Yorks          01484-847845
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                         Ronalou@gotadsl.co.uk
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                         Richardson755@btinternet.com
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                         Grahamr61@hotmail.co.uk
Mr M Roberts             Mold, Flints          01352 741482
                         Dylancerirovers@btconnect.com
Mr D Roberts             Angelsey, N Wales          01407 720086
Mr A J Robinson          Foston, Derbs          01283 815635
                         Argyspot@aol.com
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                         Vickychick@btinternet.com
R A Rowley               Kirby in Ashfield, Notts          01623 464818
Mrs A Rushton            Bluntisham, Cambs          01487 741062
                         Annieshomemeadow@aol.com
Mrs S Sabin              Malvern, Worcs          01886 833879
                         Sarah@newlandgrange.com
Miss L Sanders           Barnsley, S. Yorks          07856017779
                         Xxx.lauren98-xxx@hotmail.co.uk
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                         Ralphfenland@hotmail.co.uk
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                         Seaview.treligga@gmail.com
Mrs C Scowcroft          Preston, Lancs          01772 780315
                         Iinfo@peartreepoultry.co.uk
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