



Surrey Poultry Society Newsletter

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AUTUMN 2008

WHAT'S ON?

- October 6th

"Assessment Night" will be hosted by some top SPS judges who'll be on hand to assess your poultry in time for the November show

- November 1st

SPS Winter Show

If you haven't shown your chicken before why not give it a go? Entry form enclosed

- December 1st

SPS Xmas Party

- January

No meeting

- February 7th

SPS Spring Show

Meetings Info

Meetings start at 8pm and are held at the Worplesdon Memorial Hall, GU3 3RF, on the A322 opposite the Worplesdon Place Hotel.



Welcome from the Chairman

Hello and welcome to the autumn edition of the SPS newsletter.

Since my chairmanship commenced in March the club has had a number of informative and entertaining meetings. I'm delighted to see so many of you at these.

If there is any topic you would like the club to consider for the monthly meetings let us know by e-mailing: editor@surreypoultry.org.uk As you'll read further on in the newsletter the Surrey County Show was an enormous success with a fantas-

tic array of poultry on display with some of our own club members taking home some of the top prizes.

We hope to build on this success in our winter show with another abundant crop of entries. The schedules are included with this newsletter.

If you're not sure which bird to enter then pop along to our meeting on 6th October where top SPS judges will be on hand to look over your birds and give you advice on what to enter.

And finally.. do you have

something to contribute to the newsletter? If you have an article or photos or simply a question you want answered, then e-mail them to the editor by the end of November.

Best wishes

Frances



Hens in autumn



Surrey County Show

Despite bad weather over the May Bank Holiday of the Surrey County Show, the Surrey Poultry Society members turned out in force to put on a fantastic show.

The poultry exhibit was the most popular attraction at the

Guildford show which is one of the largest one day agricultural shows in the UK. On a good weekend they attract around 40,000 visitors.

Nearly 300 birds were entered and judged. Turn to page two for results.



Show Champion—Sebright

What's in the autumn newsletter?

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Why not visit our website at:

www.surreypoultry.org.uk

Surrey County Show Results



Show Champion—
Sebright
Robin Creighton



“The Surrey Poultry Society Display was the most popular at the County Show”



Champion Eggs
Laura Bovington

Many congratulations to all those who took part and won cards and prizes at the Surrey County Show.

Show Champion—
Robin Creighton

Reserve Champion—
B G Ward

Best Opposite Sex—
B G Ward

Best Large Soft Feather— Catherine Fuller

Best Bantam Overall—

Robin Creighton

Best Bantam Soft Feather Heavy—
Christine Finnerty

Best Bantam Hard Feather— Neil Scutt

Best Bantam Soft Feather Light—Jim Owen

Best True Bantam—
Robin Creighton

Best Waterfowl— Jed Dwight

Best Rare Breed— B G Ward

Best Juvenile— Toby Welsh

Best Eggs— Laura Bovington

Best Soft Feather Trio—
Robin Creighton

Best Rhode Island Red—
C Getty

Best Morrans—Christine Finnerty

Bob Bates Trophy—Neil Scutt

Best Members Cup—
Robin Creighton

Surrey County Show in Pictures



Bottom L to R—Robin Creighton & Toby Welsh

Show & Tell



**“Juliette”
a Malay-
sian Silkie
Serama**

April’s “Show & Tell” was a resounding success with over 20 people joining the meeting to listen to members talking about a range of topics.

From egg colour and size,

to favourite and unusual birds. Colin Saville demonstrated some old weighing equipment from the post war period, the world’s smallest chickens, Silkie Serama’s, strutted (and crowed!) their stuff and Frances talked through a fabulous illustrated children’s book, (The Life Story of a Fowl by J.W Hurst,

1908), which was written from the chickens point of view.

Highlight of the night was Mary Harvey’s egg grading machine which had the audience enthralled and everyone clamoring to have a go a grading some eggs.

Huge thanks to the variety of people who took to the stage and shared something personal to them.

“Show & Tell was a huge success with over 10 members bringing and talking about something personal to them”

Bring & Buy

Chicken coups, feeders and drinkers, incubators and fertile eggs were just some of the items on sale at the “Bring & Buy” meeting in May.

A collection of old poultry reference books and a quaint old fashioned chicken box for showing were also items snapped up by eager bargain hunters.

The 10% donation from sales raised over £35 for the club which all helps towards funding the rooms the meetings are held in, cages for showing, trophies, printing

of the newsletter and many other vital elements which make the club.



Exclusive Discount at **countrywide**

Countrywide stores in Chertsey is offering SPS members an exclusive 10% loyalty discount on all products except Animal medicines and vaccines.

To qualify all you need to do is present your SPS membership card (included with this newsletter) when paying to receive your discount..

Countrywide Chertsey can also offer special prices on the worms / vaccines for bulk orders. Please call John Reynolds for prices and quotes on 07930711447.

This discount is only valid at Chertsey in the first instance . If demand is evident then other Countrywide stores will be considered.

Countrywide Farmers is the UK’s leading farming, equestrian & rural supplies. Good service and competitive prices offer farming and rural customers the shopping experience to meet their business and lifestyle needs and aspirations. For more information or to find you local store visit:

www.countrywidefarmers.co.uk

Interesting Bits!



To all those who came along on the Saturday to help set-up the SPS poultry exhibit at the Surrey County Show and then stayed late on Sunday to pack it all away again. Without your support we wouldn't be able to hold these shows, its invaluable and very much appreciated! Tombola

“Assessment Night” is being hosted by some top SPS judges on 6th October. They're on hand to

answer your show questions and assess your poultry in time for the November show.

Life Membership

In recognition of the commitment and hard work that Len and Molly Bush have contributed to the Surrey Poultry Society, the club is delighted to announce they have been awarded Life Membership. Thank you and congratulations!



Health Corner



Red mite, the scourge of poultry keepers everywhere! The invisible killers live most of their lives off the birds, sheltering in crevices and

cracks in the poultry house. They can survive off the bird, without a blood feed, for up to six months and so can be extremely difficult to get rid of.

One way of helping to prevent infestations is to empty the house, steam pressure-wash and disinfect it (using Dettol or poultry shield, for example), and then fill all obvious cracks that you can see and

so reduce the mite's 'hiding places'.

Concentrate on areas around the perch ends and nest boxes. Another way is to use commercially available dusts (e.g. Diatomaceous Earth) - these are silica dusts that damage the external skeleton of the mite and so kill it. These can be used dry, as a coating on the house floor, or wet as a paint and to press into likely cracks and crevices.

Giving the birds a dust bath can also help reduce the number of mites they carry.

Fowl Jokes



Q: How long do chickens work?

A: Around the cluck!

Q: What do chicken families do on Saturday afternoon?

A: They go on peck-nics!

Q: Why is it easy for chicks to talk?

A: Because talk is cheep!

Q: What do you call a crazy chicken?

A: A cuckoo cluck!

Contacts

All enquiries please contact our

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