

The Plymouth Rock Club

Since 1872



Club Show Champion - Federation
White Bantam Pullet, Mrs S Prescott

YEAR BOOK 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: ROBIN RAMUS

Welcome to the 2011 year book. I would like to start by saying a big thank you to your retiring president, Mr Alan Burnett, for all he has done for the Plymouth Rock club. Alan has been a member of the Rock club for more years than I care to remember. He was trophy secretary for many years and the first person to sort all the club trophies out. He made sure that the correct trophies were awarded to the correct colours and instigated having a trophy presentation at the main club shows. Alan was elected president when Clive Carefoot retired and during this period he has worked very hard on behalf of the club, to encourage new members to join and build moral amongst the existing members. I hope that I can aspire to Alan's hard work and dedication to the club.

The membership still seems to remain around the 120 to 130 mark. Each year we seem to lose a few but also gain a few new members. I recently had a conversation with our Treasurer, Mr Jim Johnson, who tells me that the financial status of the club is very encouraging.

Sally tells me there has been quite an increase in enquiries for large Buff Plymouth Rocks, however, for the last four or five years it has been Large Barred Rocks that most people have been looking for. I do hope this means we will see an increase in Large Fowl entries around the shows. I have to say I'm a little worried at the fall in numbers of Buff Rock

Bantams shown throughout the country. I can remember thirty years ago when numbers of Buff Bantams in both male and female classes would be high into the teens at most shows around the country. I really can't understand why we have had such a dramatic drop in numbers. It is important for the club as a whole to encourage members to keep, breed and show the Buff bantam variety.

I hope you have all had a successful breeding season, I know some of you have had your ups and downs regarding fertility and disease, Coccidiosis and Mycoplasma being the main offenders.

I understand that Rocks have done very well around the summer shows, with several winning best in show or higher honours.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing many of you at the shows. Entries of Rocks at shows and our regional shows throughout the country have fallen, so please consider entering this show and let us get entries back to what they used to be.

Good luck for the year ahead and Best Wishes

Robin Ramus

President, The Plymouth Rock Club

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: KEVIN DOWRICK

As I prepare these my eldest son Chris has just left to start a teaching career near Oxford. Jason is also moving house but remaining in London having completed his degree. The house is quiet which should give me the ideal time to prepare my report but I must admit to feeling somewhat emotional.

After a few nice days last week another rain front is approaching the South-West so it looks like an afternoon in front of a computer monitor will make best use of time. In fact having been in touch with Sally I know that she has been working very hard to prepare the yearbook and is awaiting my report. This brings me on to the 2010 yearbook which was very late in arriving in the mail for club members. I can only apologise and look forward.

I think most who attend the 'big shows' will agree that the changes made by the Poultry Club at Stoneleigh for the 2010 National was a big success. Further improvements have been promised in the recent newsletter so it will be another enjoyable weekend. I would like to thank Amy Straughan for agreeing to be our club show judge and to exhibitors for putting forward a good number of quality exhibits.

The Federation show at Stafford is another great weekend but the hard working officers in green jackets must be hoping for better weather

in December. I remember leaving early in 2009 because of the snow and last year the dreadful conditions resulted in many empty pens and poor public support. Sales in the selling section were the worst that I can remember. Peter Sutton and Sally Prescott will be judging the Rocks this year and I wish them an enjoyable day.

So far I've not mentioned the breeding season. In some respects it seems quite a long time ago that I was anxiously waiting for the best females to lay and then checking eggs after ten days for fertility. I have bred a few more Barreds this year, still not great numbers but better than that reared in 2009 and 10. Some of the earlier hatched are handling quite well and without considering the finer points of barring and quality at this stage I'm pleased with the results of an out cross I have used over the last couple of years. The chicks appear healthier, stronger with better bone and bodies meeting for me the criteria of a heavy breed.

Lifting up that broody hen and finding a nest full of healthy chicks is one of my favourite times of the year. I hope that other members have also enjoyed keeping Plymouth Rocks over the last 12 months and currently pleased with the improvements made to their stock. I look forward to meeting as many members as possible around the show pens and comparing notes in the near future.

Kevin Dowrick

Chairman, The Plymouth Rock Club

SECRETARY'S REPORT: SALLY PRESCOTT

Another year has flown by. It seems amazing that I have been in the Secretary's post for almost three years, and I would like to thank the membership for all their help and support over this time. Anyone that I have approached in whatever capacity has always responded with warmth and generosity, giving of their time, expertise, experience and in some cases financial support in respect of Yearbook costs, rosettes and prize cards.

I hope that you have all had a successful breeding season in spite of the current economical challenges, and have plenty of young birds growing on for the coming show season. Raising the young stock is, for me, probably the most pleasurable aspect of keeping poultry, and gives equal delight whether the birds are being raised as potential exhibition stock, or as Utility birds for selling, or to replace aging layers. This year the greatest number of requests in relation to the sourcing of stock has been for Large Buffs. We also have several new Club members who are keeping both large Buffs and Large Whites, and a few more aiming for the rarer colours such as the Silver Pencilled. This is very encouraging for the breed.

Entries in the Rock classes at many of the shows for which I have received results appear to have been considerably lower than in previous years. At the Welsh National for example there were only four people exhibiting,

with only a single entry in several of the classes. Were this to continue we may need to look closely at the number of prize cards we have traditionally provided. At the AGM cost of rosettes and their postage was raised as an objection to the suggestion that they could be provided at some shows in lieu of Specials cards. I do feel, however, that they can be an incentive especially for Juniors and those new to showing, and have personally financed a number at some of the bigger shows during the summer as a bit of a trial. Other Specials cards have been sent out in the normal way. All show results received have been included in the Yearbook, with many thanks to the show secretaries for their provision. I would like to receive more from Club members in future and would ask that the Regional Representatives especially be a bit more pro- active in this respect!

Congratulations to all show winners, and especially to Robin for his excellent achievements at the Scottish National where his Club Champion went on to become Reserve Champion of the entire show, whilst his trio of Buffs was voted Champion Trio.

Whilst on the subject of shows, we have had to change the judge for the Scottish National. David Jarman has not been well this year, and informed me that he could not guarantee his attendance next January so we have approached Derek Agar, and he has very kindly agreed to act as a replacement.

Included with the Yearbook this time is a current, up-dated Membership list. Only fully paid up members are named as reminders have been sent out on more than one occasion. This may have resulted in a slightly reduced list, however, interest remains strong overall, and a very warm welcome is extended to the fifteen new members joining since last November. There are a number of you who joined between August and November 2010, and whose subscriptions are now due, so please forward these to me as soon as possible. I would also be delighted to hear from anyone whose name has been omitted, but would like to remain a member. I hope you enjoy the Yearbook. Any suggestions for future editions or any comments – positive or negative- would be gratefully received, either by Tom or myself. This is your Yearbook and we would like it to contain things of interest to you all.

This is the time of year when we are starting to look forward to the Autumn and the main Club Shows. Please note that plans for our new trophy, the Brodsworth Shield , are included as a separate article. Also included, and with thanks to Alan Burnett for information provided, is a Roll of Honour for winners of the Plymouth Rock classes at the Federation Show from 1986 up until the present time. There is one year – 1998 missing, so if anyone knows who the winner was on this occasion I would be very pleased to hear from them. The list will be up-dated annually in future, and a similar list provided for the National.

On a very sad note was the passing of Terry Jennings from Cumbria in September. Although I did not know Terry personally he was a club member for many years and our condolences go out to his family

My year started with a judging commitment at the Northern Poultry Society Regional Club show for Plymouth Rocks and will end with judging the Buff classes at the Federation. I have enjoyed my judging experiences so far, although I feel I am still learning, so please put forward your best birds as I am really looking forward to seeing the cream of what we can produce! It would be really great if one of our birds could go beyond Champion Rock and win the section of Soft Feather Heavy Breed, or even higher honours this year.

With best wishes to you all

Sally Prescott

WITH THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING

Tom Newbould for his help in producing the Yearbook, covering the full cost of last year's edition & contributing substantially to this year's cost.

Allan and Page for sponsoring the rosettes at the National and Federation shows, and supplying a voucher for the raffle.
(Incidentally, in the absence of a raffle being held, this was presented as a prize for the Best

Rock at Reading Show, and was won by Robin Ramus)

Derek Agar, Alan Burnett, Mick Straughan, Robin Ramus, and all those who contribute towards prize cards for the Regional Club shows.

All show Secretaries and judges for sending me their show results.

Liz & Malcolm Dawson and Jean Wall for their contributions to the Yearbook.

Alan Burnett for his help with compiling the Roll of Honour.

Robin Ramus for permission to use the extract on breeding Buffs, taken from Dr. Joseph Batty's book "Plymouth Rock Poultry"

EDITORS NOTE – Tom Newbould

I hope you enjoy this Yearbook which we have expanded since last year to over 60 pages. Sally and I have worked on it over a long period of time as the various parts arrive. Again, it's complete later than we'd have liked but we have an ideal solution for next year.

It is a pleasure to be able to contribute to our club in this way and may I wish you a successful and healthy 2012.

Tom Newbould, Yearbook Editor

MINUTES OF THE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB
AGM Held at the Federation Show, Stafford on
18:12:10

Chairman: K.Dowrick
President: A.Burnett
Secretary: S. Prescott

Members present: D.Agar: Mr.& Mrs. Chorley:
J.Dowrick: P.Fieldhouse: J.Firth: B.Green; J.Hyde:
J.Jackson: M.Jackson: D.Jarman; G.Parker: R.Ramus
M.Straughan.

Apologies for absence: Mr. And Mrs. Dawson: K.Brown:
A.Straughan; J.Crawt: Colin & Janet Fry: Jim Johnson.
Jim was, unfortunately snowed in but had sent the
Accounts Balance sheet to the meeting via Louis Chorley.

The meeting was opened by the Club Chairman, Kevin Dowrick, proposing a minute's silence in memory of any members who had passed away over the last twelve months, although no-one was aware of anyone specific.

Minutes from the 2009 AGM had been forwarded to the Yearbook Editor for publication. However, as the Yearbook was yet to be received by the membership, these were read out by the Secretary, and signed as correct, proposed Mick Straughan, seconded Jamie Hyde.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising, apart from the approach from the Bid 4 Poultry regarding us advertising their web-site. This had not yet been actioned by the Secretary, and it was agreed that she would contact them, offering either a whole or half page advert in the Yearbook at the cost of £25/ £12:50. Members would also be encouraged to advertise surplus stock for sale at the same price as this would help pay for the Yearbook.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence that needed to be brought to the meeting. The Secretary reported that she had written to Adrian Keep to express concerns raised by some of last year's judges about the quality of the meals on offer and that judges this time had been provided with a donation directly from Club funds which enabled them to purchase their own choice of food.

President's Report: Alan Burnett

Alan began by congratulating all this years show winners, especially Robin Ramus at the National and Sally Prescott at the Federation. He also thanked all the Judges and Club Officials for the time they give and the work they do. Alan then dropped a bit of a bombshell by saying that after ten years as Club President, he was proposing to stand down. He had found this a difficult decision to make and had only made up his mind at the last minute. In part, he thought that it was time for someone else a bit younger than himself to take over. Also, he felt it was very important for the Club officials to be present at the two main Club shows and at the AGM, and, given the bad weather of the last two years, he could no longer guarantee his attendance. Alan then proposed Geoff Parker, our Vice President, as his replacement, and this was seconded by Kevin Dowrick. Geoff declined the proposal, although he was honoured to be asked, as he has many other commitments and is also President of the Partridge Wyandotte Club. He stated that he felt very strongly that the Club President should be someone with a long history of service to both the breed and the Club and should also have an outstanding exhibition record and in this respect the obvious candidate would be Robin Ramus. This proposal was seconded by Sally Prescott,

and all members present being in favour, Robin was duly elected.

Chairman's Report: Kevin Dowrick

Kevin thanked Alan for all he had done on behalf of the Club over the years and welcomed Robin as our new President

Secretary's Report: Sally Prescott

Sally reported another busy year, especially on the membership front. Twenty six new members had joined the Club since the National 2009, with a further six, including one Life member, either at, or since the National last month. Three had used the website facility to download an application form.

Apart from dealing with new memberships a total of around thirty Specials had been sent out. Most shows had reported quite small entries of Rocks, with the exception of the "Countryside Live" Exhibition at Harrogate in Oct. where classes of 12-13 bantams had been forward. Many Show Secretaries had responded to requests to supply results, and these are also been posted on the Club website.

Sally then thanked those members who regularly sponsor the prize cards at our Regional shows, and asked if anyone else would be willing to help the Club in this way. Allen and Page had again been very generous in sponsoring the prize cards for the National and Federation Shows, and had supplied £20 worth of vouchers for the raffle. As this did not take place it was suggested that they should be awarded to the winner of the regional Club show at Reading.

The National Show was reported to have gone very well in its new Hall. This had proved to much warmer and benefited also from a large entrance foyer and food area, and parking immediately behind the Hall. Entries had been very similar to last year with 96 birds entered. A special thank you was given to Kevin Brown who very nobly agreed to step into the Judges role when Jamie Hyde had to pull out. My apologies that this change was not recorded in the schedule as this had already gone off to Ann Bachmet.

Another thing of note that had happened during the year was that Alan and I had been contacted by Paul Hayes from the "Put your money where your mouth is" programme, concerning a large copper poultry shield dated 1907. We were being offered first refusal, however, after contacting most committee members of the Club, the general feeling was that the Club were not in a position to purchase it. Also as it had originally been donated to the Club, it probably actually belonged to us anyway. To cut a long story short, it was eventually arranged that I would meet Paul and his team, and would receive the donated shield on the club's behalf, with Paul happy that it had been returned to its original owners. Many thanks also to the BBC. Private donations to Paul's chosen charity – Derien House in Chorley which is a children's Hospice - would be gratefully received. The shield was on display, and a discussion of how best to use it took place later in the meeting.

Sally concluded her report by thanking the membership for their ongoing support, especially Jim Johnson for managing the Treasurer's role so proficiently, and James Firth for doing an excellent in rounding up and sorting out the trophies.

She had received a message to say that the Yearbook was on its way, and finished by wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a safe journey home.

Treasurer's report: Jim Johnson.

Jim had kindly provided a current Balance sheet which had been audited by Louis Chorley. It was largely self-explanatory, but was summarized in the meeting by Mr. Chorley. Jim had also asked that we pass on a message concerning the late payment of subscriptions. He is intending to include an item in the next Newsletter expanding on this, but would like all Subs. to be paid by the end of June to enable a full summary of the Accounts to be prepared in good time for the end of Year.

Yearbook Report:

Sally reported that she had received a message from Tom Newbould to say that the Yearbook had been sent out on the 16th Dec. however no-one present had yet received a copy. Tom also confirmed that he would be happy to continue as Editor, if elected, and apologised for the late publication of this year's book which had been caused by a number of domestic changes, including a new baby, a new job, and a house move.

Web-site Update:

The question of online payments was discussed especially in the light of the three new members who had used the downloaded application form. This could easily be arranged, using Paypal, for which a named person would be needed. There would also be a small percentage charge, possibly around 5%

There was also a query about how to input show results with reports that access was being denied. Apparently only "Lizzy Buff" (Liz Dawson), has a password and all

results currently have to be sent to her for inputting. This issue is to be addressed. Patricia Fieldhouse kindly offered to assist the Club with any computer-related matters as this is her area of work.

Election of Officers:

As described above Robin Ramus was elected as the new President, proposed by Geoff Parker, seconded Sally Prescott. All other officials remained unchanged.

2011 Championship Shows

As reported above, the new venue for the National was very successful with the entry for the whole show up on last year. Entries in the Rock classes were almost identical to 2009 however, and members were urged to enter the National and try out the new facilities next year.

Judges: Reading : James Firth - Proposed Sally Prescott. Seconded Robin Ramus.

National : Amy Straughan - Proposed Robin Ramus
Seconded: Alan Burnett

Federation : Buffs: Sally Prescott - Proposed Kevin Dowrick, seconded Geoff Parker. All other Colours - Peter Sutton Proposed Robin Ramus. Seconded Jen Chorley
Mick Straughan has kindly agreed to man the Secretary's table during her judging stint

Any other Business:

The Secretary reported that because of the weather, Paul Chapman had been unable to make the show. As a result the prize cards, which Paul was to deliver, were unavailable, and would be sent out after the Show.

A proposal to supply some rosettes in addition to the current Specials cards was then put forward. This was

vetoed on the grounds of the increased cost of postage required. However, it was suggested that the cards could have a sticker on the back asking the recipient to contact the Secretary. They could then be offered the option of buying a rosette, or, if not a member of the Club, being sent an application form.

Mick Straughan has very kindly offered to sponsor the prize cards at the Northumberland and Durham show held at Birtley.

The question of how to award the new Brodsmore shield was then raised. The Secretary suggested that it be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the most points in the barred classes. Those showing both large and bantam would obviously have an advantage! Two laminated examples of possible certificates including photographs of the shield (which is too large to be carried back and forth), were on display and members were asked to vote on their preferred choice. A points system is to be devised.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks on behalf of all the members in respect of Alan's ten years as President, proposed by M Straughan. The meeting ended at 4:0 p.m.

CASH IN THE ATTIC by Sally Prescott.

It was July 8th. . I had just stepped through the front door at the end of the working day when the phone rang. I was somewhat flabbergasted to find myself speaking to Paul Hayes, who introduced himself as an antiques expert and presenter for the BBC programme “Put your money where your mouth is”. He went on to explain that on his programme he buys and then sells antiques/ collectible items and donates the profits made to a chosen charity, in this case Derien House, which is a children’s Hospice in Chorley, Lancs. One of the items he had obtained was a copper shield, dated 1907, with an inscription “The Plymouth Rock Club” along the top. Once he had discovered what this related to, he contacted Alan Burnett, who then put him in touch with me.

Paul provided the following background to the shield. It had been won by the Thellusson family who inhabited Brodsworth Hall, which was built in 1860. The family had many animals, including a famous racehorse, “Rataplan” who won the Doncaster Cup at the St. Ledger in 1855, and a further forty-two out of seventy one races run over a two-year period. However even Rataplan was apparently outclassed by a White Rock cockerel who lived on the Estate in 1911, and whose epitaph read “The most successful stud in the world”. The family must also have had Barred Rocks as the Shield was awarded for the “Member gaining the most points at the Club Show in the Barred Rock section”.

Paul asked whether the Plymouth Rock Club might be interested in purchasing the shield, and perhaps appearing on his programme. I delayed giving an immediate response to allow time to seek opinions from

other Club officials. The overriding opinion was that firstly, as a small Club, we were in no position to pay anywhere near the suggested asking price, and secondly, as the trophy was inscribed "The Plymouth Rock Club" it actually already belonged to us, even though it had been hidden away in the Attic for years. These views were communicated to Paul and, to cut a long story short, after much negotiation between myself, Paul's Assistant, Alan Burnett, and, I believe, with the BBC bosses, it was finally arranged that if I would attend a film session, after which the shield would be donated back to the Club.

I accordingly went to meet Paul and his team of two in a pub garden in a village just outside of Newark. Here we filmed Paul returning the Shield to those he felt to be the rightful owners. The trophy had been cleaned using a Coca Cola bath and looked much more impressive than the original picture. It was also much larger than I had imagined, standing just over two feet high by around 18 inches across, and had evidently hung on the wall either in the Hall of the Big House or in the Poultry Barns.

In the absence of any Large Barred Rocks locally available, I took along a photograph of a winning Bantam Barred cockerel, and a young White pullet of my own to demonstrate the breed, and these will hopefully appear in the final clip, which was shown on BBC1 or 2 in late Sept./Oct.

I was particularly interested in obtaining this trophy if possible as it dates from very early in the Club's history. It was donated by a Dr. Cartwright and I understand that Will Burdett can remember this exhibitor from his early days on the Show scene.

Co-incidentally, a short while before all this happened, I was given a copy of the 1915 Feathered World Yearbook by my mother-in-law. In the Show results section both Dr. Cartwright and the Thellussons are listed among the winners in the Barred and White classes at the Dairy Show, and at the Birmingham Show (the fore-runner of today's Federation Show). C. Thellusson also won second place in the Buff or White Male class, and first and third in the Female class at the Plymouth Rock Society Show at Leeds on Dec.8th/9th 1914. Interestingly, they also swept the board with White, Rosecombed Orpingtons at the same show.

It seems quite possible that the White Rocks were the immediate descendents of the "Most successful stud in the world".

In conclusion, the shield will be on display at the Federation Show, and we will need to decide at the AGM how the Club would like to use it. If any member would like to make a contribution to Paul's chosen Charity as a mark of appreciation for his interest and generosity, I

"THE BEAUTIFUL WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCK"

An extract from "The Poultry World Annual" 1926

By J.R.Stanton

Points in selecting Stock

So far as breeding is concerned, White Plymouth Rocks differ in no particular from the breeding of other varieties so far as conformation is concerned. The white variety is expected to excel in shape. The best formation is a body that is evenly poised on shanks with about an equal proportion of breast and body in front, and a like amount of body and abdomen in the rear of the shanks. In selecting birds for breeding they should be up to the

standard weight, not over-fat, but large and well proportioned for the breed. A defect such as leg colour, or size, may be overcome on one side of the pen, say the hens, by having superior quality in the cockerel, but the continued practice of mating good and true quality on both sides will bring the best results.

No bird of this variety should be used for breeding that has pinkish white shanks. The shanks and feet must be rich golden yellow. The breeding stock must be kept in the best condition or inferior chicks will be produced.

Breeders of White Rocks almost without exception use the single mating system, and in this the variety has a big pull over the Barred Plymouth Rock, in which to produce the very best breeders resort to double mating.

Purity of Colour needed.

In selecting stock birds, purity of colour must be given great consideration. Equally good males and females can be reared from the same mating, provided the mating has been properly made. The breeder must see that the plumage throughout is white in selecting breeders. It is a difficult problem to produce yellow beak, shanks and skin; the less brilliant the colour of skin and shanks the more likely will be a pure white plumage. The richer the leg colour the more likely is the plumage to show a yellow tinge. Still, it is not impossible to get good legs and good body colour in the same bird. The plumage shows a stronger tint when the feathers are growing than after the bird is fully fledged, and the feathers have aged. One point must never be forgotten, and that is that if the birds are allowed to run in the sun they will soon go creamy or sandy in plumage, therefore the breeder of White Plymouth Rocks must provide shade for his birds especially whilst they are moulting.

Never Mind the Black :

The plumage of the white Plymouth Rock should be pure right through. Because the skin, beak and legs are yellow pure white plumage is hard to obtain. The yellow pigment necessary to colour the skin, beak and legs is inclined to distribute itself where it is not desired. Very often the quills will be slightly creamy, even when the web and fluff are pure white. Yellow and creamy tinges seem to cling most tenaciously to the primary, or outside quills, and will appear in the quills of the flights and secondaries if they appear in any section of the plumage; thus the quills of the primaries may be taken in a measure as an index of the colour of the bird; if these quills are white the entire plumage is usually pure white.

Black plumage is apt to come in the whitest fowls; this cannot always be avoided, nor is a small quantity of black to be considered a breeding defect. In fact when black or grey feathers make their appearance the rest of the plumage is a purer white, and breeders generally are pleased to see it, because it is a well-known fact that white fowls of any description that show a few dark feathers generally breed the best chickens. What is known as ticking, small specks of grey or slate may occur in white specimens.

A Good Utility Fowl:

If we take the white Plymouth Rock from the utility standpoint it is a good bird. It will lay as well as the other members of the family, and is quite as good as the White Orpington, although I would not claim for it equality with the White Wyandotte in this respect. But laying is a matter of strain, and I am persuaded that if attention was given to the utility qualities the White Plymouth Rock would equal the White Wyandotte.

As breeders the White Plymouth Rocks are quite equal to other members of the Rock family. They are hardy. The hens make good mothers, and the chicks feather well. They are not so quick in maturing as the White Leghorn, but are quite equal to the White Wyandotte, and are, in my opinion, a most handsome fowl, because they have greater style and elegance of pose. In fact there is no bird that looks more aristocratic than a well grown, good coloured White Plymouth Rock cockerel.

AT HOME WITH - Liz & Malcolm Dawson

Address:-Meltham, Holmfirth.

How long have you been at this address?

I have been at this address for sixty three years, and Liz only eighteen from when we married.

What are the surrounding countryside & weather conditions like for keeping poultry?

Very hilly and very pretty. Can be rough in winter as we live near the moors.

Do you have a family?

Yes, Liz has three children who are very close to me as well, and we have four grandchildren.

Occupations:

I am self-employed, and Liz is a Care Worker, part-time.

SP = Sally Prescott

L.&M.D. = Liz and Malcolm Dawson

S.P. When and how did you first become interested in poultry?

L.&M.D. I was first interested in bantams when I was about 10 years old , and started going to shows as a teenager with the late Mr. Lewis Earnshaw who was showing Old English Game bantams. Then I the lost interest because I started to play cricket. I became interested again after I married. Liz wanted some chickens which was a shock because she was terrified of anything with feathers on.

S.P. What breeds and colours do you keep?

L.& M.D. We only keep Plymouth Rocks now; Buff and White bantams, also a few Silkie crosses.

S.P. What made you decide on Plymouth Rocks?

L.&M.D. We liked the buff colour and the shape of the birds.

S.P. Where did you obtain your original stock?

L.&M.D. We met Phil Stadden at Glossop Show and arranged to buy a trio of Buff Rock bantams from him.

S.P. Have you made any out-crosses since this time?

L.& M.D. No.

S.P. Which of the colours you keep do you find are the most difficult and why?

L.&M.D. The Whites because they soon get dirty.

S.P. How many birds do you have and on average, how many do you breed each year?

L.&M.D. We only keep about twenty five adults, but hatch about forty chicks.

S.P. Where and how do you keep your birds?

L.&M.D. On our allotment at the side of our house. The birds are kept in huts with outside runs, and some in show pens.

S.P. Do you use broodies or an incubator for hatching?
L.& M.D. We use both, but broodies are best.

S.P. At what age do you separate the sexes, and how do you accommodate the young cockerels?

L.& M.D. At about sixteen to eighteen weeks. The males we are keeping go into show pens.

S.P. What criteria do you use when culling young birds?

L.&M.D. We don't cull any ourselves, but take those we are not keeping to a friend who does it for us.

S.P. Do your birds run out, and if so how do you protect them from the sun?

L.&M.D. Yes, and we cover the top of the runs with plastic sheeting.

S.P. What do you feed your birds on, from the chick stage through to adulthood?

L.&M.D. Chick crumbs; Growers pellets and fresh veg. chopped up in a food processor.

S.P. How do you control poultry parasites such as worms; mites and lice?

L.&M.D. We use Frontline for the mites and lice, and a worm powder twice a year.

S.P. Do you have trouble with foxes, and if so, what precautions do you take to keep your birds safe?

L.&M.D. We have not had any trouble yet.

S.P. How do you prepare your birds for showing?

L.&M.D. We bath them in the kitchen sink, and use old towels and a hair dryer to dry them off. I also clip toe nails and use a toothpick to clean the legs.



S.P. Which are your favourite shows and approximately how many shows do you attend in a year?

L.&M.D. Northallerton ;the Federation at Stafford and the Countryside Autumn Show at Harrogate. We

tend to only do eight shows a year.

S.P. What has been your best win so far?

L.& M.D. Show Champion at Halifax ; Best Plymouth Rock at the Autumn Exhibition at Peterborough, and two wins at Stafford, plus any show where Liz gets a red card ahead of Robin (Ramus).

S.P. What are your hopes and aims for the future?

L.&M.D. To get Show Champion at Stoneleigh and Stafford.

S.P. Do you keep breeding records and how do you mark or identify the chicks from a particular mating?

L.& M.D. We use coloured rings which are removable.

S.P. Who has been the biggest influence on you and why?

L.& M.D. Alan Burnett, for all his help and advice over the last few years.

S.P. You were instrumental in setting up the website. How do you see the future of the Rock Club in years to come?

L.& M.D. Hopefully with a lot more members and everyone on the Breeders list.

With very many thanks to Liz and Malcolm for sharing their thoughts with us.

SHOW RESULTS 2011

NORTHERN POULTRY SOCIETY 16 Jan. 2011

Judge : S. Prescott

Buff Rock Cock or Hen:

1. Singleton & Harvey
2. A.Burnett
3. T.Napthine

Buff Rock Cockerel:

1. J.M.Dawson
2. T.Napthine
3. Singleton & Harvey

Buff Rock Pullet:

1. A.Burnett – **Club Champion**
2. T.Napthine
3. J.M Dawson

Barred Rock Cock or Hen:

1. A. Burnett

Barred Rock Cockerel:

1. A. Burnett – **Reserve Club Champion**

2.G.Harrison

Barred Rock Pullet:

1. Singleton & Harvey
2. Singleton & Harvey
3. A. Burnett

Black or Blue Male:

1. Singleton & Harvey

Black or Blue Female :

1. Singleton & Harvey

AOC Rock Male :

1. E.M. Dawson (White)
2. Singleton & Harvey (Silver Pencilled)
3. A. Burnett (Columbian)

AOC Female:

1. B. Green (White)
2. B. Green (White)
3. A. Burnett

**READING & DISTRICT BANTAM
SOCIETY – SAT. FEB.26 & SUN. FEB. 27**

Buff cock :

1. Robin Ramus- Very good male; great colour & legs.

Buff Rock Hen (3 entered - 2 absent)

1. Robin Ramus – Very good hen. Great colour & type
Wattles & comb on the large size.

Buff Cockerel (5 entered, 3 absent)

1. Robin Ramus – Very good cockerel, excellent colour,
type and legs. **BEST ROCK & Best Buff**

2. Kevin Brown – Good head, nice even buff. Not as fit or the type of winner.

Buff Pullet (4 entered, 2 absent)

1. Robin Ramus -very good pullet; great type & even colour, but wattles and comb too big.----**Best Female**

2. Robin Ramus-Another very good pullet, similar to winner but not as fit. Again, wattles and comb too big.

Barred Male (1 entered)

1. K. & J. Dowrick – Very nice male. Very good barring, great legs but lacks the type of the Buff cockerel. It's good to see Barreds the right size. **RESERVE BEST ROCK & Best Barred.**

White Female(1 entered)

1. M. & J. Jackson. Poor bird ; sappy, a lot of black in her not fit . **BEST WHITE**

Black Female (2 entered)

1. John Crawl. Good bird. The best leg colour I have ever seen on a black, undercolour could have been darker; bit on the large side, pale in face. **BEST BLACK**

2. Valerie Kitt. Very good undercolour; good sheen, but Wyandotte in type.

Partridge Male (1 entered)

1. Huw Evans. Nice male. Good colour. Feathers missing below vent. **BEST AOC.**

Partridge Female (1 entered)

1, Huw Evans. Nice female, well marked. Leg colour could have been better. Feathers missing below vent.

I enjoyed judging the Rocks and hopefully will be able to do it again. I would like to thank my steward, Jenny Howl. **James Firth**

OTLEY SHOW 21:05:2011

Judge: P.Richardson

Barred Male or Female:

1.J.Harrison

Buff Male or Female:

1.Singleton & Harvey

**PEEBLES & DISTRICT POULTRY &
BANTAM CLUB 27:02:2011**

Buff Rock Male:

1. B.Slater

2. J.Houston

3. G.& S. McAdam - **BEST ROCK**

4. Mrs. F. Gillies

Buff Rock Female:

1, J. Robertson

2. B.Slater

3. J.Houston

4. Mrs. F. Gillies

AOC Rock Male

1. D.S.V.Jarman

AOC Rock Female:

1.W. Linton – Barred

- 2.J.Robertson
 - 3.D.S.V.Jarman
-

NORTH YORKSHIRE SHOW 19:06:2011

Judge: J.Johnson

Large Rocks: No entries

Buff Rock Cock:(6 entries)

- 1.Mr.& Mrs.A.Burnett – **CHAMPION ROCK**
- 2. Mr. & Mrs. M.Dawson
- 3. Littlewood & Smithson

Buff Hen: (7 entries)

- 1. Littlewood & Smithson
- 2. Mr.& Mrs. A. Burnett
- 3.Littlewood & Smithson

Buff Cockerel:(1)

- 1.D.Agar --- **RESERVE CHAMPION**

Buff Pullet: (1)

- 1.D.Agar

Barred Male: (1)

- 1.Mr.& Mrs.A.Burnett

Barred Female:(6 entries)

- 1. S.Short --- Best Barred
- 2. J .Robinson
- 3. Mr.& Mrs. A.Burnett

White Male: (4 entries)

- 1. Mr. & Mrs. M.Dawson --- Best White

2. B.Green
- 3 B.Green

White Female: (3 entries)

- 1.D.S.& V.Jarman

Columbian Male: (1)

- 1.Mr.&.Mrs.A.Burnett

Columbian Female: (2)

1. Mr. & Mrs.A.Burnett
2. Mr. & Mrs.A.Burnett

All other Rock classes were empty

**Northumberland & Durham Show
PC Regional/ PRC Regional, 27.09.11**

Judge- A Procter

AC Large M/F (2 Entries)

1. L & J Chorley (White) – Best Large P.R
2. L & J Chorley (White)

Buff bantam Cock (1)

1. Tom Newbould

Buff bantam Hen (1)

1. E & N Durham

Buff bantam Cockerel (3)

1. E & N Durham – Best Buff, P.R Champion, Best SF Heavy Breed
2. E & N Durham

3. L & J Chorley

Buff bantam pullet (5)

1. L & J Chorley
2. L & J Chorley
3. E & N Durham

Barred bantam male (5)

1. Tom Newbould
2. Tom Newbould
3. L & J Chorley

Barred bantam female (6)

1. Tom Newbould – Best Barred
2. Tom Newbould
3. Tom Newbould

White Female: (3)

- 1.D.S.& V.Jarman

All other Rock classes were empty

Crosby Ravensworth Show, 09.08.11

Reserve Best in Show – Tom Newbould, Barred Rock bantam pullet

Buff Rock M/F – 1, 2, 3. Tom Newbould
Barred Rock M/F – 1,2,3 Tom Newbould
AV SF Ckl – 1 Tom Newbould (Buff Ckl)
AV SF Plt – 1. Tom Newbould (Barred Plt)



Reserve BIS at Crosby Ravensworth Show for Tom Newbould

BREEDING BUFF ROCKS

An extract from Dr. Joseph Batty's book entitled "Plymouth Rock Poultry" - 2005 Edition

By kind permission of Robin Ramus who contributed the guidelines for successful breeding of Buffs.

Many breeds have buff varieties, and at one time there was a craze for the colour, but regardless of this fact, breeding buffs of the correct shade can be very difficult. Buff originated as a "dull yellow". For the Standards it should mean an even shade of yellowy-orange or golden-yellow, which is not pure lemon or full orange. In practice, the head, neck, saddle and upper parts tend towards a slightly darker shade than

the lower parts. For the British Plymouth Rock the colour should be even golden buff through to the skin with the male a more brilliant lustre than the female. This appears to permit a slightly darker shade.

The neck hackles may be a slightly darker shade , especially on cocks; this is accentuated by the extra lustre which is permitted by the standards, but not much darker because this is in opposition to the even golden buff requirement.

The undercolour should match the surface colour, but often the colour is quite light, approaching white. This is quite wrong and an indication of a weak factor in the colouring. In the early days of breeding Buffs all different shades have been presented and many arguments have resulted. Yet once the deep shade is achieved, with careful breeding, the colour can be produced quite faithfully.

As a result of many experiments which have been carried out a positive approach has now been evolved. The 'rules' are :-

Both sexes should be as ideal as possible in type and colour.

There should be evenness of colour from head to tail. Even if the male is slightly darker, the shade should be quite even. Do not mate a hen with a cock of two distinctly different shades (See "The Mating & Breeding of Poultry" Lamon & Slocum – ibid)

The colour of the female's saddle should be the same shade as the breast of the male.

Do not breed from birds which have white, black or peppering of either colour in the main tail feathers (including male sickles) or in the wing flights.

Avoid females which have mealiness on the shoulders --- this means a sprinkling of lighter colour.

Avoid male birds with weak under colour, especially white on hackle, back, saddle and the root of the tail.

Do not use birds which have an edging or lacing on some of the body feathers.

Avoid males which have a dark top colour- not just a slightly darker shade of orange-buff – or males which are lemon in colour- which will not produce the correct shade of buff.

TRAVELS FROM IRELAND - THE TRIP TO THE SHOWS

A contribution from **Jean Wall**, who joined the Club last year.

Stoneleigh, Stafford and the Scottish National are the highlight of our showing season. Plans are made many months in advanceferries are booked, accommodation sourced and piggy banks raided!

The growers are scrutinised every week for a possible entrant, and the older stock implored to hurry up with the moult so we can see how they look! Finally decisions and entries are made and then its preparation all the way till we board the ferry. We generally travel in pairs, numbers vary from year to

year. Some of the Irish fanciers travel over by plane just to see the Show. Our birds are travelled in pet carriers or purpose-made wooden boxes with a small amount of water in a drinker. We make sure when penning them on the Friday night that they are well fed and watered after the journey; fed and watered again after judging, and on the Sunday we feed them well before we box them up for returning home. The birds travel under Licence from the Dept. of Agriculture. We carry water and feed with us in case of delay. The trip across the Irish Sea takes three and a half hours, and the journey time to Stoneleigh by road across Wales and England four to four and a half, depending on traffic. Stafford is about an hour less.

We travel for most of Friday, but make penning time early. Last year the trip to Stafford was to say the least, difficult and involved going a day early to avoid getting stuck at home. I live high up in the Wicklow Hills which adds to the snow and ice problems.

The Scottish National can also be difficult because of the weather --- that trip involves driving to Belfast the day before the ferry. The ferry journey is about three hours, and then it's two and a half to Lanark.

Why do we do it? No, it's not because we are mad, but it's great fun to meet up with other self-minded people for a weekend! We love talking about the trials and tribulations of poultry keeping and how the year has gone for us. We have made many great friends through the different breed clubs to whom we belong. It's sad too when someone has passed on in the year and we remember them.

If by some miracle we manage to win a class then we are really chuffed, but any placing is exciting and well celebrated.

I fell in love with three young Barred Plymouth Rock pullets at Stoneleigh and that's how I got into the breed. I also keep large Light Sussex, Welsummers both Large and bantam, White Silkies both Large and bantam, Silver Campines, bantam Marans, and last, but not least Pekin Ducks, so quite a selection to choose from.

I have had a bit of success with my young Barred Rock cockerel, so hope to enter a couple of Rock classes again this year and see how my breeding has gone.

Roll on the Majors !!!!!

ROLL OF HONOUR FEDERATION CLUB SHOW 1986 -2010

- 1986 A.Burnett
- 1987 G.Parker
- 1988 F.&.J.Wilson
- 1989 A.Burnett
- 1990 T.Heginbotham
- 1991 R.Ramwell
- 1992 J. Swarbrick
- 1993 A.Burnett
- 1994 A.Burnett
- 1995 K.Brown
- 1996 T.Newbould
- 1997 M.J.&.J.H.Hatton
- 1998 Not known
- 1999 A.Burnett

2000 R.Ramus
2001 K.R.Dowrick
2002 A.Burnett
2003 R.Ramus
2004 R.Ramus
2005 Show cancelled
2006 K.R.Dowrick
2007 B.Green
2008 R.Ramus
2009 R.Ramus
2010 Mrs.S.Prescott



Above: Sally Prescott, the most recent entrant to the Federation Roll of Honour, pictured in 2010 with her Club Show Champion White bantam pullet.

FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 2010

AWARD	Exhibitor	Exhibit
Club Show Champion	S.Prescott	White bantam F
Reserve Champion	R.Ramus	Buff bantam F
Best Opposite Sex	R.Ramus	Buff bantam M
Best Large	R.B.Jackson	Large barred F
Best Bantam	S.Prescott	White bantam F
Best Male	R.Ramus	Buff bantam M
Best Female	S.Prescott	White bantam F
Best Cock or Hen	S.Prescott	White bantam F
Best Juvenile Exhibit	S.Harvey	Barred bantam
Reserve Juv. Exhibit	S.Harvey	Buff bantam
Best Trio	R.Ramus	Buff bantams
Best Barred (L or B)	K.&J.Dowrick	Bantam F
Best Buff (L or B)	R.Ramus	Buff bantam F
Best Blue (L or B)	-	-
Best Black (L or B)	K.&J.Dowrick	Black bantam F
Best White (L or B)	S.Prescott	White bantam F
Best Partridge (L or B)	EvansBros.	Bantam F
Best Silver Pencilled	D.J.Singleton	Bantam M
Best Other Colour to above	Hyde & Ellerby	Columbian Bant F.
Best Large Barred	R.B.Jackson	F
Best Barred Bantam	K.&J.Dowrick	F
Best Large Buff	-	-
Best Buff Bantam	R.Ramus	F
Best Eggs	R.G.Thomas	-

Judges report - Jen Chorley (Buffs & Eggs)

Many thanks to the members for inviting me to judge at the Federation Show it was a great honour and privilege being the first time judging a major show.

After nerves I settled in and enjoyed it very much, and although the weather was as bad as it could be it was good to see the members had made every effort to get their birds to the show and in good condition.

On judging the Buff classes it was good to see they were all in good condition, although it was disappointing there was only one large buff entered . It would be nice to see more next time.

Bantams

Buff Cocks

- 1.R.Ramus Nice fit bird,good overall colour,good head & legs
- 2.R.Ramus. Very similar to first.
- 3.R.Ramus. Good bird, not as even as second.
- 4.A.Burnett. Tidy bird not as good as third.

Buff Hen

- 1.R.Ramus .Good even feather, good head and eye.
- 2.R.Ramus. Nice bird ,some dark feathers.
- 3.Mr.&.Mrs.D.Eade. Nice bird, narrow in body.

Buff Cockerel

- 1.R.Ramus Lovely bird, good undercolour; good head & legs. Even colour.
- 2.R.Ramus .Very similar to first but darker tail feathers.

3.R.Ramus. Not as fit as second.

4.D.Agar. Good bird.

Buff Pullet

1.R.Ramus. Excellent bird. Top quality sound colour throughout. Best Buff

2.R.Ramus. Excellent bird, not quite as good as first.

3.D.Agar. Well-bred bird, not as good as second.

4.S.Prescott. Nice bird.

Juvenile male or female

1.S.Harvey. Nice barred pullet. Lovely to handle. Good barring and fit bird. Best Juvenile

2.S.Harvey. Buff cockerel. Uneven colour.

3.S.Harvey. Barred cockerel. Lots of black feathers, lacks presentation.

AC Plymouth Rock Trio

1.R.Ramus. Excellent trio. Lovely birds, good colour, heads and legs. Best Trio

2.J.&S. Hyde & Ellerby. Nice trio, one bird darker than the other two.

3.E.M.Dawson. Nice trio, not as good as second.

Egg Classes

Plate of three, large or bantam

1.R.G.Thomas Best Eggs

One large or bantam egg to be broken

1.P.M.Fieldhouse.

Disappointing egg entries. Would like to see more next year.

Congratulations to all prize winners and exhibitors.

Some splendid birds, and especially to R.Ramus

for his best pullet and trio and setting a good standard for everyone to aspire to. *Jen Chorley*

Judges Report : David Jarman (AOC)

Large Fowl:

Barred Male :

1. J Wall. Good type, eyes and leg colour. Comb could be better.
2. C.Roberts. As above. Let down by leg colour.
3. P.M.Fieldhouse. Nice type ; uneven barring; black feathers.

Barred Female :

1. R.B.Jackson. Good type ; even barring ; good eye. Best Large.
2. J.Wall
3. C.Roberts. Barring not clear : black feathers ; square legs.

A.O.C. Female:

1. J Firth (White) Nice type ; sappy on the back.
2. D.A.Nesbitt (White) More Wyandotte than Rock.

Bantams :

Barred Cock:

- 1.G.A.Parker. Fit; good type, leg and eye colour. Good all round.
- 2.A.Burnett. Little small. Leg colour not as good as first.
- 3.Hyde & Ellerby. Uneven barring. Poor comb.

Barred Hen:

1. J.Robertson. Nice type; uneven barring ; poor leg colour.

Barred Cockerel:

1.K.& J.Dowrick. Nice type; good barring, leg & eye colour.

2.G.A.Parker. Similar to first. Not as fit.

3.G.Walker. Nice bird. Black feather let it down

Barred Pullet:

1.K.& J.Dowrick. Good type; fit; good leg & eye colour. Best Barred.

2.G.A.Parker. Similar to first. Dark face spoilt it chances of going further.

3.A.Burnett. Nice type. Pale face; black feathers.

White Male:

1.B.Green. Nice bird; fit; sappy on the back

2.B.Green Not as good as winner; small comb; sappy on back.

White Female :

1.S.Prescott Good type; fit;clean feather; leg & eye colour good. Club Champion.

2.M& J. Jackson Black ticking stopped it winning.

3.B.Green Another good bird spoilt by feather ticking. Little pale in leg.

Black Female :

1.K.& J.Dowrick Good type; good top colour ; fit; good eye & leg colour.

2.D.J.Singleton. Smaller bird ; lacking top colour.

Columbian Male:

1.A.Burnett Good type, leg and eye colour

- 2.M.& J.Jackson Good bird. Lacked fitness
- 3.Hyde & Ellerby. Markings not as good as above.

Columbian Female:

- 1 1.Hyde & Ellerby. Nice type; good markings; eye colour and fitness good.
- 2.Hyde & Ellerby. As above. Leg colour let it down.
- 3.M.& J. Jackson Poor markings. Sappy back.

Partridge Male:

- 1.Hyde & Ellerby. Good type; fit and well marked.
- 2.D Agar Another good bird, hard to separate from the winner.
- 3.D.J.Singleton Nice bird. Hackle feathers uneven.

Partridge Female:

- 1.D.Agar Good type; even markings. Eye and leg colour good.
- 2.Hyde & Ellerby Nice type. Undercolour not as good as winner.
- 3.Hyde & Ellerby. Similar to second. Comb not as good.

Silver Pencilled Male :

- 1.D.J.Singleton

Silver Pencilled Female :

- 1.M& J Jackson. Nice type; uneven markings; poor eye colour.

I would like to thank the members for putting me forward to judge at their Club Show . A little disappointed in the number of entries. It was nice to see various colours of Rocks being exhibited. It was from the Whites I picked my best bird – a nice type, fit and well prepared. *David Jarman.*

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 2010

AWARD	Exhibitor	Exhibit
Club Show Champion	R.Ramus	Buff bantam F.
Reserve Champion	K.Dowrick	Barred Male
Best Opposite Sex	K.Dowrick	Barred Male
Best Large	C.Roberts	Barred Female
Best Bantam	R.Ramus	Buff bantam F.
Best Male	K.Dowrick	Barred Male
Best Female	R.Ramus	Buff bantam F.
Best Cock or Hen	R.Ramus	Buff bantam M.
Best Juvenile Exhibit	Sarah Harvey	Buff bantam M.
Reserve Juv. Exhibit	Steven Short	Barred bantam
Best Trio	Evans Bros.	Partridge
Best Barred (L or B)	K.Dowrick	Barred M.
Best Buff (L or B)	R.Ramus	Buff bantam F.
Best Blue (L or B)		
Best Black (L or B)	K.Dowrick	Bantam F.
Best White (L or B)	S.Prescott	Bantam F.
Best Partridge (L or B)	Evans Bros.	
Best Silver Pencilled	D.Singleton	Bantam M.
Best Other Colour to above	A.Burnett	Columbian M.
Best Large Barred	C.Roberts	Female
Best Barred Bantam	K.Dowrick	Bantam M.
Best Large Buff	P.Williams	Female
Best Buff Bantam	R.Ramus	Bantam F.
Best Eggs	E.Boon	3 Bantam

Judges Report - *K Brown*

I was pleased to accept the invitation to judge all classes at this year's Club Show at Stoneleigh.

Though I've previously judged all classes, when I last judged at Stoneleigh in 2002 we had two club show judges. There's always a need to have Breed Club

Champions sorted out, to allow judging of championship row. As I did not use a steward, I must apologise and claim these factors as contributing to me making only few notes.

It was disappointing that large buffs were represented by one bird in contrast to the encouraging turn out in 2002. Reasonable numbers of large barred were present although it was disappointing to find that some birds, which took the eye, from outside the pen, were a long way from completing their moult.

Buff bantams were reasonably well represented, as were the barred. As with the large it was disappointing that so many young birds were not quite ready and adults were a long way from completing their moult. My champion and reserve champion were birds which I considered to be in particularly good form on the day.

In making comments on the carded birds I have extracted notes from my judging book, which as mentioned were not extensive.

42 Plymouth Rock Bantam Trio (3 entered 2 present).

1. **Evans Bros** Partridge rocks. Even trio in good feather.
2. **J Boyd** White rocks. Two useful females. Trio spoilt by the cock, which was very sappy & had gap in wing.

701 Large Barred Male (12 entered 9 present).

1. **J Wall** Good body & in good feather. Would prefer to have been darker colour.
2. **B & P Smith** Good darker bird with a little black in flight but spoilt by feathers missing in tail.

3. **C Roberts** Another good type dark bird with some black in flights and less distinct under colour than 1st & 2nd.
4. **R G Thomas** Good body but too light in colour.

702 Large Barred Female 5 entered 5 present).

1. **C Roberts** Dark bird with good body & barring. Dusky leg colour but best large. **Best Large Rock**
2. **J Wall** Well barred.
3. **B & P Smith** Tail not yet through.
4. **R G Thomas** Good body & type but weak eye & missing flights.

703 Large Buff Male (1 entered 0 present).

704 Large Buff Female (2 entries 1 present).

1. **H Williams** Lacked type.

706 Large AOC Female (1 entries 1 present).

1. **J Firth** White rock. Good hen spoilt by missing flight in wing.

708 Bantam Barred Cock (2 entries 2 present).

1. **G A Parker** Well Barred.
2. **P J Sutton** Not yet ready.

709 Bantam Barred Hen (3 entries 1 present).

1. **J Robertson** Lacked show condition. Not through in wing.

710 Bantam Barred Cockerel (6 entries 6 present).

1. **K R Dowrick** Neat dark cockerel with some size and substance.

Best Barred & Reserve show champion.

2. **G A Parker** Some black in flight and not yet quite through in feather.

3. **G S Walker** Not yet through and too many black feathers.
4. **G S Walker** Not yet through. Missing main tail feathers.

711 Bantam Barred Pullet (8 entries 8 present).

1. **D J Singleton** Well barred pullet but not yet quite through in feather.
2. **G S Walker** Another well barred pullet. Dusky leg colour.
3. **G A Parker** Another well barred pullet.
4. **G S Walker** Black in flights.

712 Bantam Black Male (1 entries 0 present).

713 Bantam Black Female (4 entries 3 present).

1. **K R Dowrick** Good type and colour. Very fit & well put down. **Best Black**
2. **J Firth** Another good hen but not the quality of the 1st.
3. **G S Walker** Not as fit as the 2nd.

714 Bantam Buff Cock (7 entries 7 present).

1. **R Ramus** Strong cock with good body. Good under colour sound quills. Even for a darker shade of buff.
2. **R Ramus** Very even lighter, lemon buff. I liked this bird a lot but not quite so well through moult and lacked the body of the winner.
3. **R Ramus** Another sound buff cock, but not quite so far through a 1st & 2nd.
4. **S B Prescott** Useful

715 Bantam Buff Hen (3 entries 3 present).

1. **R Ramus** Strong hen with good body. Good under colour sound quills. A little rough on ends of a couple of flights.
2. **H Williams** Very even light buff. Not the type of the winner.
3. **R Ramus** Not so even and some rough scales on legs.

716 Bantam Buff Cockerel (8 entries 6 present).

1. **R Ramus** Good even cockerel. Good under colour sound quills. Will benefit from a little more time.
2. **R Ramus** Similar to 1st but a little less ready.
3. **S B Prescott** Darker buff. Shafts not as sound as 1st & 2nd.
4. **D J Singleton** Lacks type of those in front and not as sound in shafts as 1st & 2nd.

717 Bantam Buff Pullet (8 entries 6 present).

1. **R Ramus** Excellent even pullet with good under colour sound quills, shown in the peak of condition.
Best Buff & Club Show Champion.
2. **R Ramus** Another good even pullet, similar to 1st but not quite the same condition.
3. **A Burnett** Lacks the type of 1st & 2nd.
4. **S B Prescott** Darker and less even than those beating her.

718 Bantam White Male (1 entries 1 present).

1. **B G Green** White but lacked breadth of body.

719 Bantam White Female (3 entries 3 present).

1. **S B Prescott** Good hen shown in good condition.
Best White
2. **B G Green** A smaller bird. Not quite ready.
3. **B G Green** Some smut in this bird.

720 Bantam Partridge Male (5 entries 3 present).

1. **Evans Bros** Useful cockerel that wins on condition.
2. **Evans Bros** Not as forward or fit as the 1st.
3. **D J Singleton** Good colour but not through in feather.

721 Bantam Partridge Female (4 entries 1 present).

1. **Evans Bros** Useful pullet shown in good feather and condition but slightly dusky legs. **Best Partridge**

722 Bantam AOC Male (3 entries 3 present).

1. **A Burnett** Columbian. Fittest and in good feather.
2. **D J Singleton** Columbian. Wing flights missing.
3. **M & J Jackson** Columbian. Poor type.

723 Bantam AOC Female (5 entries 5 present).

1. **A Burnett** Columbian. Fittest and in good feather but a lot of black where it should not have been. .
2. **M & J Jackson** Columbian. Lacks type.
3. **D J Singleton** Silver pencilled.

724 Bantam AC Juvenile M/F (4 entries 4 present).

1. **S Harvey** Good barred. female fit & in good feather, which would have been in the running in the adult class.
2. **S J R Short** Well barred female but not through in feather.
3. **S Harvey** Buff female with new feathers coming through so looking patchy..
4. **S Harvey** Buff male slightly mealy in wings.

K Brown

2011 SCOTTISH NATIONAL SHOW
Lanark Agricultural Centre on 22/23 January
Judge Mr S Cumming

Large Fowl

Barred Plymouth Rock Male – 4 entries (1 Empty pen)

1. J Wall
2. R B Jackson
3. J Houston

Barred Plymouth Rock P – 6 entries(2 Empty pens)

1. R B Jackson
2. J Wall
3. M G Grogan
4. M G Grogan

Buff Plymouth Rock M - 2 entries

1. J Finlayson Jnr
2. D McVey

Buff Plymouth Rock F – 3 entries

1. D McVey
2. J Finlayson Jnr
3. D McVey

AOC Plymouth Rock M – 3 entries

1. D McVey
2. D McVey
3. D McVey

AOC Plymouth Rock F – 9 entries

1. D McVey
2. D McVey
3. D McVey

4. D McVey

Best Blue

Bantams

Barred Plymouth Rock Cock – no entries

Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerel– 3 entries(2 Empty)

1. FJ Rhind

Barred Plymouth Rock Hen – 2 entries(1 Empty pen)

1. J Robertson

Barred Plymouth Rock Pullet – 6 entries(2 Empty)

1. Singleton & Harvey

2. L&J Chorley

3. FJ Rhind

4. DS&V Jarman

Buff Plymouth Rock Cock – 10 entries

1. R Ramus

2. R Ramus

3. G S McAdam

4. B Slater

Buff Plymouth Rock Cockerel – 7 entries

3. R Ramus

4. R Ramus

5. R Ramus

6. J&D Johnson

Buff Plymouth Rock Hen – 7 entries

1. R Ramus

2. R Ramus

3. L&J Chorley

4. A McCarthey

Buff Plymouth Rock Pullet – 10 entries

1. R Ramus Best buff+ best bantam +champion rock+ reserve champion in Scottish National (pictured below)
2. R Ramus
3. R Ramus
4. R Ramus



White Plymouth Rock M – 1 entry

1. DS&V Jarman

White Plymouth Rock F – 2 entries(1 Empty pen)

1. DS&V Jarman Best White

AOC Plymouth Rock M – 2 entries

1. Singleton & Harvey
2. Singleton & Harvey

AOC Plymouth Rock F – 1 entry

1. Singleton & Harvey

Trio of Plymouth Rocks

1. R Ramus Best Trio at 2011 Scottish National

2. L&J Chorley

WELSH NATIONAL SHOW JAN. 2011
Plymouth Rock Club Regional Show

Large Fowl:

Barred Male: (3 entries)

- 1.D.E.P.Jones
- 2.P.Richardson
- 3.P.Richardson

BarredFemale:(2entries)

- 1.P.Richardson - Champion Rock
- 2.P.Richardson

Buff Male:

- 1.H.Williams

Buff Female:

- 1.H.Williams

Bantams:

Barred Male:

- 1.A.&C.Hughes
- 2.A.&C.Hughes

Barred Female:

- 1.A.& C.Hughes
- 2.A.& C.Hughes
- 3.A.& C.Hughes

Buff Cock or Hen:

- 1.H.Williams
- 2.H.Williams

Buff Cockerel:(2 entries) Order of result unknown
H.Williams
N.J.Green

Buff Pullet:(4 entries) Order of result unknown
D.E.P.Jones
N.J.Green
H.Williams
H.Williams

AOC:(3 entries)
1.H.Williams
2.H.Williams
3.H.Williams

ROYAL WELSH 18:07:2011 -
BEST PLYMOUTH ROCK D.Picton Jones, Large
Barred Female

CUMBERLAND SHOW 16:07:2011

Plymouth Rock M / F:
1.J.Chorley- Show Champion Overall
2.J.Chorley
3.J.Chorley

DRIFFIELD SHOW 20:07:2011

Barred Rock M/ F:(2 entries)
1.S.Short
2.J.Robertson

Buff Rock M/ F:(8 entries)
1.J.Johnson

2.J.R.Simpson

3.J.Robertson

AOC Rock:(1 entry)

1.Mrs.K.Britten

REVESBY SHOW (E.OF.ENGLAND P.C.)

07:08:2011

AV Large Fowl:

1.R.Everatt (barred female)

2.R.Everatt (barred male)

Bantams

AC Rock M/F:(4 entries)

1.Mrs.S.Prescott (White female)

2.Mrs.S.Prescott (Buff pullet)

3.B.Green (White female)



Early 1920s photo of baskets of Barred Rock eggs – at that time the Barred was a valued utility breed.

THE PLYMOUTH ROCK CLUB – OUR CLUB

“PROMOTING THE BREED OF PLYMOUTH ROCKS”

The Plymouth Rock Club of Great Britain was founded in 1897, and exists exclusively to promote one of the world's most popular breeds of poultry, the Plymouth Rock. Plymouth Rocks originated in America and are a general purpose breed that lay well, will go broody, and are large enough to be used as a table bird.

Early birds were all large fowl and were first introduced into Britain in 1871. The Barred variety are the oldest, with Buffs next, imported into this country in 1897, followed by the Whites. Separate clubs for each existed in the early part of this century. In 1910 a section for Barred Rock bantams was added to the Club, and ten years later, one for Buff bantams. Gradually, over the years, the various clubs realised that they could not function successfully on their own, and returned to the parent Club so that by 1964 they all became one Club again.

The present Club exists to promote both utility and exhibition stock and currently has around 115 paid up members, many of whom do not exhibit their birds. The Club holds three main club shows each year, one within the P.C.G.B. National Championship Show; one within the Federation Show at Stafford, and the third, newly instigated, within the Scottish National Show.

Subscriptions are currently £6 for full adult membership; £4 for Juniors (under 16); £10 for Partnerships and £50 for life membership. Subscription rates are subject to annual review and the Club accounts year begins in November.

Upon joining the club members receive a copy of the Yearbook, which includes the club rules and membership list; the breed standards booklet, and an annual Newsletter.

The Club also has a website -

www.theplymouthrockclub.co.uk

looked after by Elizabeth Dawson which includes lots of helpful information, photos, a breeder's directory, and a discussion forum.

Application forms for joining can be downloaded and sent to the Secretary.

Plymouth Rock Colours

Barred

Buff

Black

Blue

Columbian

Partridge

Silver-pencilled

White

Splash (diluted blue; non-standard)

All are available in Large form and bantam, although are in few hands and may be difficult to source.

Please encourage anyone interested in Plymouth Rocks to join our club and buy stock from Club members to ensure good quality birds.

CLUB JUDGES PANEL

Please think about who you would like to judge at any of the club shows, even area shows, so that you will have nominations at the AGM

ANY COLOUR JUDGES

D.Agar
B.Anderton
J.Barry
K.Brown
W.Burdett
A.Burnett
ONLY
C.Clark
J.Crawt
S.Cummings
K.Dowrick
C.Fry
T.Heginbotham
J.Howe
D.Jarman
A.Kirkpatrick
D.Mcvey
T.Newbould
G.Parker
D.Picton Jones
S.Prescott
R.Ramus
R.Ramwell
J.Redgate
P.Simpkins
P.Smedley
D.Storey
A.Straughan
J.Swarbrick

BUFFS ONLY

R.Clarke
J.Johnson

OTHER COLOURS

J.Hyde

THE CLUB RULES

The name of the club shall be the Plymouth Rock Club.

The object of the club shall be to promote the breeding of the Plymouth Rock, to urge the adoption of the true type and colour by breeders, exhibitors and judges and to advance the interest of the breed.

That the officers shall comprise of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, Trophy Secretary and Yearbook Editor, each to hold office for a term of three years.

There shall be representatives appointed for all areas of the U.K., and the representatives and officers shall front the committee of the club.

That the committee meet at the National Club show each year, and the AGM be held at the Federation Show.

The Annual Subscription be £6 (to be reviewed annually at the AGM) ; Life membership; Juniors £4 & Partnership £10.

The judges for the Club Shows shall be elected at the AGM

Only paid up members are entitled to compete for the club trophies.

Any member appointed to judge a club championship show will not be eligible to judge at that show for a further three years.

A novice is one who has not won a first prize at the National or Federation shows

Any disciplinary action against any member for any reason shall only be taken by members at the AGM.

That these rules should only be altered at the AGM

That all members should be deemed bound by these rules without recourse to law.

That all trophies that have been won at any Plymouth Rock Club show must be returned to the same show the following year, either to the trophy secretary or to the general secretary by noon of the first day of a two day show , or on an earlier date if possible.

Any matters not provided for in the above rules will be dealt with at the AGM or if necessary by a special meeting whose ruling will be final.

AWARD OF THE COPPER SHIELD

The copper shield returned to the Club as a result of the "Cash in the Attic" programme and by the generosity of the BBC is to be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the most points in the Barred Rock classes at the Federation show. As the actual shield itself measures over two feet in height and is heavy to carry a framed certificate as seen above will be awarded.

SCALE OF POINTS FOR COPPER SHIELD

The following scale of points is proposed, and can be discussed at the AGM

Club Champion ---	25 points
Reserve Champion	
or	
Best Opposite Size	20 points
Best Large Barred	15 points
Best Bantam	15 points
Best Cock	10 points
Best Hen	10 points
First in each class	5 points
Second in each class	4 points
Third in each class	3 points
Reserve(4th place)	1 point

N.B. As this will be the first year of the award, the points will be calculated on the two classes (male and female) for the Large Barred, and the bantam cockerel and pullet classes only. If sufficient support is generated in the large classes this time we will ask for separate classes for cock/ cockerel and hen/ pullet in next year's schedule . Points for Best Cock and Hen will not be awarded this year.

Two alternative designs for the certificate were presented at the AGM and the overwhelming choice made by the members present was for the one depicted.

SALLY'S KITCHEN

Four meals, for two people, from one/two large fowl spare young cockerel (or one large bought chicken).

Recipe One: Roast chicken.

Take one large chicken 4-5 lbs.(2- 2.5 kg.) in weight. Smear with butter or pour over some Olive oil. Place in roasting tin and cook in a pre-heated oven at 190 c/ 375 F./Gas mark 5 for 20 mins. per pound, plus 20 mins.extra. Baste every 20 minutes or so during cooking. The breast may also be covered with bacon rashers during cooking although these may be removed for the last half hour of cooking to allow the breast to brown.

Once the roast has been eaten, remove the remaining meat from the carcass, and divide into two portions (one for the stir fry / Asparagus Bake, and the other for the pie).

To make the stock;-

Place the carcass in a large saucepan and cover with water. Add 1 large onion; 1 stick celery, 2 carrots and a Bay leaf. Season, then boil over a gentle heat for 1-1.5 hours. Strain.

Recipe Two: Chicken & Asparagus / Broccoli Bake

Lightly fry one chopped onion (optional) in a tablespn. butter or margarine.

Add one heaped tablespoon of plain flour and make a white sauce by gradually adding milk. Stir continuously to give a smooth consistency. Flavour with half a stock cube, or a large pinch of Bouillon powder: season with salt & pepper.

Arrange cut up cold chicken pieces in the bottom of an oven-proof dish. Add lightly cooked asparagus spears

or broccoli. Pour the white sauce over the contents of the dish. Top with grated cheese.

Bake in a pre-heated oven at 170 C. /Gas Mark 4 for 40 mins. or until piping hot throughout.

Chicken & Rice Stir Fry

Ingredients; 1 Onion, chopped

2 large mushrooms, chopped

1 large orange pepper, de-seeded and sliced.

1 courgette (if liked)

2 sticks celery cut into slices

Sufficient cold, sliced chicken for two. This should not have been kept for more than a day following the roast.

2 tablespoons oil

2 tablespoons chicken stock

2 tablespoons light Soy Sauce

1 cup cooked rice (see below)

Salt & pepper.

Method:

Fry the chopped onion, mushroom & celery in the oil until soft, but not brown. A Wok or frying pan may be used for this. Add the sliced courgette, pepper, chicken pieces and continue to cook over a moderate heat for at least 10 mins. so that the chicken is thoroughly hot. Stir regularly and add half of the stock and Soy sauce if it starts to stick to the pan.

Meanwhile cook the rice as follows; Gently heat 1 dessert spoonful of oil in a small saucepan.

Add 1 cupful of Easycook, long grain rice, followed by two cups of boiling water. Cover, and cook over a low heat for 20 mins. or until all the liquid is absorbed.

Add the cooked rice to the Wok, along with the remaining Soy sauce and stock; mix everything together and serve with a green side salad.

Recipe Three - Chicken and Vegetable soup:

To make the soup, begin by gently frying 2 large, sliced leeks, a medium sized chopped potato, two large carrots, a sliced stick of celery in 2 tablespoonfuls of oil in a large saucepan. Add 2oz orange lentils and a dessert spoon tomato puree. Cover with stock, adding some water if needed (1-1.5 pints), season and simmer for 45 mins. Liquidise and serve with crusty bread.

Recipe Four: Chicken Pie

Use either short crust or Ready made pastry.

For the filling; In a saucepan, fry 1 onion and 1 medium sized mushroom in 1 tablespoon of butter or margarine. Add 1 tablespoon of plain flour. Gradually add chicken stock stirring all the time until a smooth sauce is achieved. Next add the fresh cold chicken, 1 tablespoon frozen peas and a tablespoon pre-cooked, chopped carrot, and allow to cool.(I often freeze the pie filling at this stage so that it can be used at a later date, avoiding the need to have three chicken dishes in succeeding days).

When you are ready to make the pie, line the base of a 7 inch pie plate with half the pastry, pile the filling into the middle; top with the remainder of the pastry, pinching the edges together to seal them. Make a couple of slits across the top to allow steam to escape. Glaze with milk or beaten egg.

Cook in a pre-heated oven at 220C./ Gas mark 7 for the first 15 mins. Then reduce heat to 190C and cook for a further 30 mins. or until the pastry is thoroughly cooked.