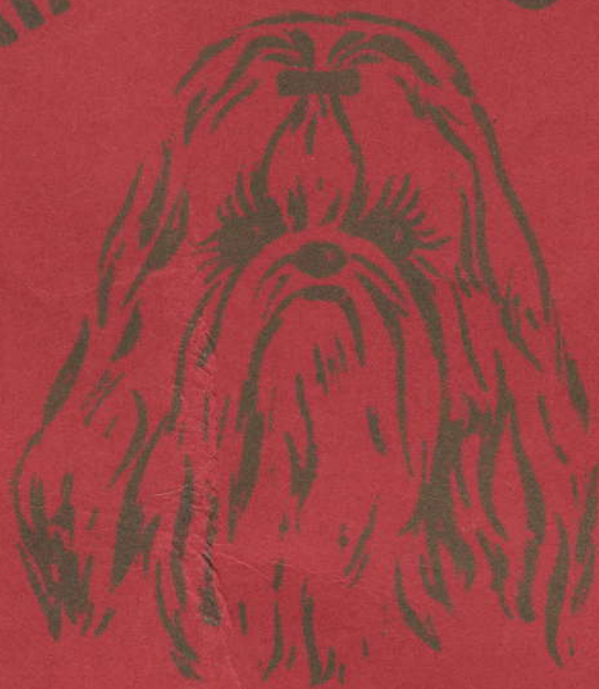


The Shih Tzu Club of NSW



welcomes

TO THE

**1<sup>ST</sup> BREED SEMINAR**

**18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1978**



## The Shih Tzu Club of NSW

### OFFICE BEARERS

Patronesses:

Mrs S. Dobson

Mrs G Widdrington

President: Miss M Ouvaroff

Vice-Presidents: Mrs G Johnson      Mrs P Le Brun

Secretary: Mrs L Barry

Treasurer: Mr P Charles

Publicity Officer: Mr L Bradney

Committee:

Mrs P Bales, Mr P Barry, Mrs E Jones, Mrs I McIntyre, Mr D Telfer, Mr M Whittle.

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### FIRST BREED SEMINAR

Parramatta Travelodge, Parramatta  
18th March 1978  
10.00 a.m.

### SPEAKERS:

Mr Gilbert S. Kahn (U.S.A.)

Dr H. R. Spira, BVSc., MRCVS, MACVS, HDA

Mr Roy Burnell

Miss M Ouvaroff

Mrs Frances Sefton

Mrs Pam Bales

Chairman: Mr M Johnson

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There will be breaks for Luncheon & Afternoon Tea

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*Space has been left throughout for the taking of notes*

## THE BREED STANDARD

(as approved by the Australian National Kennel Council)

**GENERAL APPEARANCE** — Very active, lively and alert, with a distinctly arrogant carriage. The Shih Tzu is neither a terrier nor a toy dog.

**HEAD AND SKULL** — Head broad and round; wide between the eyes. Shock-headed with hair falling well over the eyes. Good beard and whiskers; the hair growing upwards on the nose gives a distinctly chrysanthemum-like effect. Muzzle square and short, but not wrinkled like a Pekingese; flat and hairy. Nose black for preference and about one inch from tip to stop.

**EYES** — Large, dark and round but not prominent.

**EARS** — Large, with long leathers, and carried drooping. Set slightly below the crown of the skull; so heavily coated that they appear to blend with the hair of the neck.

**MOUTH** — Level or slightly underhung.

**FOREQUARTERS** — Legs short and muscular with ample bone. The legs should look massive on account of the wealth of hair.

**BODY** — Body between withers and root of tail should be longer than height at withers; well-coupled and sturdy; chest broad and deep, shoulders firm, back level.

**HINDQUARTERS** — Legs short and muscular with ample bone. They should look straight when viewed from the rear. Thighs well-rounded and muscular. Legs should look massive on account of the wealth of hair.

**FEET** — Firm and well-padded. They should look big on account of the wealth of hair.

**TAIL** — Heavily plumed and curled well over back; carried gaily, set on high.

**COAT** — Long and dense, but not curly, with good undercoat.

**COLOUR** — All colours permissible, but a white blaze on the forehead and a white tip to the tail are highly prized. Dogs with liver markings may have dark liver noses and slightly lighter eyes. Pigmentation on muzzle as unbroken as possible.

**WEIGHT AND SIZE** — 10-18 lb. Ideal weight 10-16 lb. Height at withers not more than 10½ inches; type and breed characteristics of the utmost importance and on no account to be sacrificed to size alone.

**FAULTS** — Narrow heads, pig-jaws, snipiness, pale pink noses and eyerims, small or light eyes, legginess, sparse coats.

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## THE HISTORY OF THE SHIH TZU - prepared for the Shih Tzu Club of NSW by Mrs G Johnson

### ANCIENT HISTORY

Australia is a young country in comparison with other parts of the world, with a civilization barely begun. Strange, but, fitting that we meet today to discuss this small animal from a culture almost as old as time itself. Fitting . . . because these two countries have a common bond. Both have been remote isolated regions of the world in centuries gone by.

Our knowledge of past events is often incomplete, inaccurate and clouded by fables and heresay. Historiography becomes an art a piecing together of one snippet of information with another, to form an account of what we think happened X number of years ago. So it is with the various breeds of dog. In order to understand and to some extent unravel the origins of a breed, it is necessary to know something of the people who bred them, the circumstances in which they lived, and the surrounding terrain. How then do we piece together the history of this small dog – SHIH TZU – coming as it does from that most secret and mysterious country of the Orient – CHINA.

It has been established by dating processes used in archaeology that skulls of short faced dogs found in these regions date back hundreds of years B.C. the nose bones complete, discounting the theory that the Chinese always broke the noses of their puppies with a chopstick to stunt growth. According to documents and paintings, a pair of small dogs, believed to be of Maltese type, were presented to the Imperial Court of China around 650 A.D. by the Fu Lin of the Ancient Byzantine Empire. The city of Byzantium is clearly marked on maps recorded around that time, capital of Turkey.

From this area within easy reach of Malta the old silk merchants plied their trade, following the ancient routes across the continent to Kashgar and Khotan then across the vast Gobi desert to Shangtu, a route similar to that followed by Marco Polo when he made his journey to China around 1271. It seems logical that the Chinese, known at this time for their love of beauty and the arts, took these small dogs and fashioned them over the years into the fore-runners of the Shih Tzu we have come to know today. Mention of small dogs 'with hair of golden silk, not more than a foot in length and very intelligent' was made by Marco Polo in his account of his journey to China and his twenty three years spent in the Imperial Courts at that time. Other records show that dogs were sent as tribute around 990 by the people of Ho Chou, to the current Emperor of the time, supposedly of pug type, no doubt these too would have played a part in the history of the Shih Tzu.

Then came the onslaught of Ghenghis Khan, great leader of his Mongol tribe, who swept through the opposing Mongol tribes, conquering and destroying until China itself succumbed, and his son Kublai Khan eventually established himself as Emperor, beginning the Yuan Dynasty, and building the Forbidden City, Peking. The Mongols were nomadic people, illiterate and not cultured as were the ruling Chinese. One would have thought that the small dogs of the court would have died out, or been eaten during this period, but it was during the reign of Kublai Khan that Marco Polo made his famous journey. It is interesting here to note that the Chinese with their ever inscrutable and patient natures, accepted their conquerors throughout their long and tumultuous history with impassive calm. They simply set about converting these barbarians to the Chinese way and culture, gave them their daughters in marriage, and the 'Shih' or ruling class continued to mould their country's future guiding it through from one Dynasty to the next.

The name 'Shih Tzu' has been interpreted in several different ways, by various people, some claiming it means Tibetan Class dog others Lion dog and so on. The Chinese language is difficult to interpret, and can be confusing since it is based on the principle of transferring an idea, not a word. Thus one word, 'Shih' for example can have many

meanings but transfers one idea, meaning the scholars and gentry, in other words, the upper class, and the ruling class of China throughout it's centuries were known as the 'Shih', the rulers. It could refer to the Lion, ruler of beasts or to the Tibetan monks, the scholars who ruled Tibet, the range of speculation is wide. The Empress Tsu Tzi, a great lover of these small dogs is said to have referred to them as Tibetans, but to what did she refer? Did she call them the 'Shih' in which case her European visitors may have wrongly interpreted her meaning. According to a recent traveller in the upper parts of India who was granted an audience with the current Dalai Llama, he denied that these dogs had ever been bred in the Temples of Tibet or used as Prayer dogs. The Tibetans in fact were wild ferocious tribes and probably gained much of their culture from the Chinese. In fact for several centuries during the Ching Dynasty and up to the revolutions of this century Tibet along with Mongolia, Manchuria and Turkistan were part of the huge Chinese Empire, one of the largest and richest Empires of it's time. No doubt exchanges of dogs were made from time to time, and smuggled back and forth but Tibet, harsh and forbidding, seems a most unlikely place of origin for the Shih Tzu, hardy though they may be.

With the death of Empress Tsu Tzi in 1908, and the overthrow of the old Imperial system, it is hard to know what became of the dogs of the court, but it is assumed that some were taken with the fleeing families attached to the Court at the time, and kept as pets, for the 'Shih' the ruling class thought it would be only a matter of time before they were once again restored to their rightful place in the community. There is no clear knowledge of this period until we pick up the thread again with the advent of General and Mrs Brownrigg, stationed in China with a British regiment in the 1920s. Later to become Sir Douglas and Lady Brownrigg, in recognition of their services during what must have been a harrowing time spent in their alien country, Lady Brownrigg, a keen dog lover discovered these small dogs and determined that she would take some back to England with her.

#### ENGLISH HISTORY

In 1928, with the help of another English woman, Miss Hutchins. The Brownriggs shipped two dogs to England, the Dog Hibou and the bitch Shu Ssa, these two along with another dog Lung Fu, owned by Miss Hutchins, became the first Shih Tzu to be bred from in England, establishing the breed there and giving the now famous 'Taishan' kennels an honoured place in Shih Tzu history. Apparently there were others imported and shown before this time but they were never bred from.

About the same time another army couple stationed in India imported a similar breed to England. Referred to as Apso, meaning hairy one, this caused a great deal of confusion as to whether these were one breed of dog, or two separate breeds. Finally the two couples were brought together with their dogs, and certain outstanding differences were noted, distinguishing these as two different and separate breeds, so they were registered as Shih Tzu and Tibetan Apso, later to be changed to Lhasa Apso. Distinct differences existing between the two breeds will be discussed later in the Seminar by Mrs. Frances Sefton, suffice to say that puppies show obvious differences before their long coats grow, and it is up to breeders today to know and to endeavour to retain those differences.

It is well recorded in various books how the breed progressed in the Western world from this time. Dogs were imported from China to Sweden, from a subsequent litter a dog, Choo Choo, was presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth (now the Queen Mother) to join the English Shih Tzus. Mrs. Garforth Bless (now Mrs Gaye Widdrington) a Patroness of our Club, joined the small band of Shih Tzu supporters with her foundation bitch Mee Na of Taishan, establishing another well known prefix in Shih Tzu history - Lhakang. During the war years the dog breeders of England were hit hard, food was scarce and it was a case of everyone working to save the country, so little breeding was done at this time. Around 1961, Lady Brownrigg and Mrs Widdrington working together, re-established the Club and interest in the breed revived once more. Several large and influential kennels took an interest in this small breed, and did much to promote them to the Public and in the Showring. During the 1950s, one litter of great importance to Australia was born at Taishan Kennels and we move to the next era, in this country.

## EARLY AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

By English Ch. Choo Ling, out of English Ch. Pa Ka of Taishan, this litter produced three champions. English Ch. Wang Poo of Taishan remained in England, another brother in the litter was exported to Italy, where he too gained his Title, and Pei Ho of Taishan having won two CC's. and Reserves in England before his departure came to Australia with Soo and Tony Dobson in 1954, to become one of the foundation dogs of the 'Wawnehill' Shih Tzus. With Ch. Pei Ho of Taishan, came Wen Chin of Lhakang and Cloe of Elfann, both gaining their Australian titles. Pei Ho, a beautiful black and white dog, with good compact body and lovely head, with Wen Chin a chestnut and white dog and Cloe, a sound compact black bitch gave a variety of colours, whilst their individual properties were sufficient to provide a sound basis on which to build a breed. Many of our current pedigrees can be traced back to these three dogs. From the first litter produced, puppies went to South Australia and Queensland, whilst puppies from subsequent litters were sent to Victoria and Western Australia. The interest in the breed had begun.

Since these early days, imports have come from other leading English Kennels, and our Pedigrees soon contained the Snaefell and Antarctica bloodlines. Aust. Ch. Hia Nan of Snaefell arrived in Australia in 1958, and with Aust. Ch. Skoal of Eyeworth (sire Snaefells Huckleberry Finn) introduced the Swedish line to this country, via Jungfaltets Jung Ming. This line had much to offer producing good level toplines, lovely flowing action, with good reach and drive, but legginess and length of noses needed careful watching, and indeed these problems did show up in stock for quite a while. Aust. Ch. Ty Yung of Antarctica arrived around 1959, and had quite an influence on the breed around Australia at that time, producing Champions in several States. A few years later Aust. Ch. Lee Lisan of Lhakang arrived in N.S.W. A black dog (registered as silver black) this was at the time a controversial import, carrying the blood of Ti-Ne-Tim of Michelcombe, third generation offspring of the 'Pekingese' cross that took place in England under supervision of the English Kennel Control. Such was the outcry at the time, one would have thought such methods had never been employed before to strengthen a breed. This dog was quite widely used, being noted for his head, with good eye placement and excellent skull. Another import to N.S.W. at this time was Ch. Tai Sung of Lhakang, a black and white that produced some winning stock.

The Chasmu line came to the country with Li Kung Lin of Chasmu, and Ton Fan of Chasmu. After arriving in Victoria where several litters were bred, these two (a dog and a bitch) went to their owner in Queensland. Some of the beautiful Chasmu golds were seen at this time. Western Australia, not to be left out saw the arrival of two Dapperlea bitches - Potala and Tra Yerpa. Apparently only one was bred from, stock going mainly to the Southern States. A bitch coming into N.S.W. Finlow Chin Kung Chi was bred from, but few puppies survived.

Probably the greatest influence of the late sixties came with the first Greenmoss imports to Australia, Aust. Ch. Chin Wang of Greenmoss, a dog and Aust. Ch. Saffron of Greenmoss, a bitch. From the celebrated great English sire, English Ch. Chinki of Meo, Chin Wang's influence has been felt all around Australia, particularly on head, expression, mouths and coat. Many Champions have come from this dog up to this time. Saffron, beautiful even in her later years, is behind many top winning Shih Tzus here today.

With the rabies scare, all imports to Australia were banned in 1969 for several years, and breeders were obliged to use the available dogs and their own ingenuity, since no new dogs were likely to arrive for some time, no one quite knew when. Since the ban was lifted in the early seventies, imports have arrived from a number of different kennels, which will be included in a continuation of this record in due course. Sufficient to say that with the wide choice of available dogs, and some skill and care in breeding programmes, Australian Shih Tzu should be able to take their place among the world's best.

## CONCLUSION

This is of necessity a brief account of the Shih Tzu's early history, it's arrival in

Australia, and gradual acceptance into the dog scene. What of it's future?

The Shih Tzu Club of N.S.W. was formed in April 1976, the breed having been sponsored for many years in this State by the A.S.C. Asian Breeds Club. Victoria on the other hand has had a flourishing Shih Tzu Club for many years.

The 70's have seen a vast rise in popularity of these fascinating little dogs. With improvements made in the breed, and more professional grooming and presentation methods, awards at Group level have become almost commonplace around Australia, with some continuing on to take out coveted 'IN Show' awards. The Shih Tzus, it seems has arrived.

The ancient Chinese philosophers would tell you that nothing in life remains constant, there is the ying . . . and the yang . . . the ebb . . . and the flow. Today we breed to a written standard, changes have been made and will continue to be made. But we as breeders should remember, with us lies the heritage of this ancient dog of China. Not bred for it's scenting or hunting ability . . . never a dog of war . . . not noteworthy for it's speed or obedience. This is the 'Shih' the aristocrat of dogs . . . with the heart of the lion and the intelligence of the scholar, always expecting an honoured place in the household as his birthright.

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Information has been collected for this article with as much care as possible in the time available. Corrections or additions will be welcomed to assist in an accurate and more detailed account of our Australian history being prepared, hopefully for a future Seminar.

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Gwen Johnson

March 1978

*(This paper will be presented on behalf of the Shih Tzu Club by Mr M Johnson, Chairman)*

## ON BREEDING SHIH TZU - by Gilbert S Kahn (U.S.A.)

A number of years ago, in the pages of an English dog publication, I saw photographs of some fluffy little dogs called "Shih Tzu". At the time, I was breeding and showing Norwich Terriers and I thought that the Shih Tzu was a very small-type dog.

In October of 1967 my last Norwich died and, as I had three Yorkshire Terriers, I was not thinking of getting another breed, especially since I had not done any showing for a number of years. The Yorkies, although from good English stock, were only pets. Also, at that time, I was living in an apartment in New York City and three dogs were enough.

In the Spring of 1968 Jorge Sanchez and I decided to move to Florida on a permanent basis. I put our apartment up for sale and bought a larger house in Miami - selling our small winter quarters in that city. We set the moving date for September.

One day in May I was walking home and, as was my usual habit, I stopped to look in the window of the neighborhood pet store - which specialized in Yorkies. The owner had some excellent dogs and showed extensively in the New York area. This day, however, in the window were two of the most adorable faces I had ever seen. They looked like two black and white chrysanthemums! I walked into the shop and not too long after, I walked out with Parquins Ying Loo, who was promptly christened "Chin Chin".

Chin Chin was an English import and, as the Shih Tzu had not yet been recognized by the American Kennel Club, I had her registered with the American Shih Tzu Club. She had been bred by a Mrs. Cotton. Her sire was Parquins Hietunes Yae Jin and her dam, Lily Loo of Myarlune, who was subsequently sold to the late Richard Paisley, a famous American Pug breeder, and later on finished her American championship.

After we moved to Florida, I began to correspond with Mrs Gay Widdrington who was very helpful in filling in pedigrees. We made our first visit to Crufts in 1970 and Mrs. Widdrington invited us to Newton Hall. We bought a dog (Am. Ch. Chang of Kandu) from Mrs. Widdrington's line. I also made an appointment to visit Mr and Mrs Leadbitter, however, they had nothing for sale at that time. They asked Mrs Winifred Elder of Juling Shih Tzu to bring over a puppy for us to see. That visit resulted in our buying our great producer, Juling Miss Chief (Tassie) - a dam of five champions!

Tassie was sired by Am. Ch. Ho Tai of Greenmoss out of Rawstock Pa-sha. The two puppies that we bought in England were very young so we could not plan any breeding for at least a year- and-a-half.

Upon returning home, I bred Chin Chin with no success. Four subsequent breedings produced no puppies. This, I feel, was due to an infection she had during her second heat period. Today Chin Chin is a very lively ten-year old.

On subsequent trips to England we bought other bitches. One was the black and white Am.Ch. Whitethroat Shih T'sai (Tishy) whom we obtained from Mrs Eunice Fox. Besides being closely related to Ch. Chang of Kandu, she also carries an outcross, carried in the barren Chin Chin, that of Lughwa - a line coming directly from Chinese stock. Tishy is a small bitch and, after two litters, she started on a spectacular show career. She finished her championship in four months with four major wins and two Group placements over champions. Tishy's son by Ch. Chang of Kandu, Charing Cross Tang Too, is an Argentine Champion and Number Four Toy Dog in that country.

For the purposes of this talk, with regard to other bitches we bought, I will confine myself to the purchase of Lansu Show Time (Mimi), which we bought from Sylvia and Tom Hoyle, and the addition of Am. Ch. Elfann Golden Puff Ball (Cheeky), a gift to us from Elfreda Evans. These two dogs, plus Ch. Chang of Kandu and Juling Miss Chief, are the main foundation of all our stock, and I will take you up to the present through these four dogs.

In July of 1971, the two puppies we bought on our first visit to England were ready to be bred, and Chang and Tassie's first litter was born September 19th. There were three dogs and one bitch. The three dogs all became champions; one in Brazil where he beat the famous International Ch. Greenmoss Socket Tumi; a second in the U.S.; and the third and most important dog from that litter, Am. and Can. Ch. Charing Cross Ching El Chang. He was outstanding from the beginning and did very well in the show ring as a puppy. I sold



him to a man interested in a top show dog. I did it because I wanted to concentrate on breeding and this dog deserved a great campaign. He got it and was the 1 male Shih Tzu in the U.S. for two years! He won some five BIS and many Group and Breed wins. He has sired a great number of winners, including a Best-in-Show winner.

The second litter from Chang and Tassie also produced three dogs and a bitch. All these were sold as young puppies.

Tassie's third litter with Chang had two dogs and two bitches born September 19, 1974. One bitch and one dog were sold as pets, although the bitch who was rather small was very good and had won a five-point major. The other dog and bitch are Can. Ch. Charing Cross Golden Star (Blondie) and Am. Ch. Charing Cross Rising Star (Pasha).

In 1973 we again attended Crufts. On that trip we purchased Lansu Show Time (Mimi), a large bitch who weighed ten pounds at five months and grew to a gorgeous 18 pounds! The Hoyles understood that she was too big to be shown in America and agreed to sell her because we needed a larger-type bitch to go along with our little nine-pound Chang. When we bred this pair we got two twelve-pound males who were sold, and a small bitch, Charing Cross Golden Firefly (Mollie). Mollie was gold and white as a puppy but turned grey and white like both her dam and sire did. In time, she was bred to Ch. Elfann Golden Puff Ball (Cheeky). This litter produced two gold and white males of eight and nine pounds at maturity, and a larger brindle and white bitch of twelve pounds, who is Ch. Charing Cross Belinda Belle. Belinda has just whelped her first litter of two bitches sired by the 1 Shih Tzu in America, Ch. Dragonwyck the Great Gatsby, a complete Scandinavian outcross, whose only English line is his dam's great-great grandsire, English Ch. Talifu Fu Hi. At this time, the two bitch puppies are gold brindle and white with black tippings; one has a smaller head and she may be more reminiscent in type to the sire's mother; the other has a more English head but both seem to have the physical construction of the Scandinavian line. The main reason for this outcross was that we felt we had achieved in Belinda the perfect English type. This generally means a good sized broad head and heavy bone. In order to achieve a bit more length of leg, was the primary reason for the outcross. I think we have achieved that without sacrificing the other qualities necessary for proper movement.

Lansu Show Time's second litter (sired by Am. Ch. Winemakers Pla Boi, a Scandinavian-English cross) consisted of two males and three females. I sold the males as they were too large. I also sold two of the bitches who became Canadian champions. The remaining bitch we placed on breeder's terms. In her only litter to date, she produced two bitches and a still-born male, sired by Ch. Charing Cross Rising Star (Pasha). One of the bitches is Argentine Ch. Charing Cross Bella Bella. The other bitch is our Ch. Charing Cross Peek-A-Boo, who is mostly fawn-brindle with white and weighs about eleven pounds. Peek-A-Boo's breeding plans are not finalized at this time. One possibility is to breed her to a son of Charing Cross Belinda Belle and The Great Gatsby because they both contain a 50-50 Scandinavian-English cross. She should be bred to a dog containing a 50-50 Scandinavian-English cross. I had hoped that Belinda Belle and The Great Gatsby would produce a male. As this did not happen in the first litter, I may repeat the breeding.

To return once again to Juling Miss Chief (Tassie), after her three litters with Chang, I bred her to Ch. Elfann Golden Puff Ball. From this litter of five bitches, I kept the gold and white Ch. Charing Cross Abigail Adams. Abigail's show career started rather late and I have no breeding plans for her at this time. We also have the Tassie-Cheeky daughter, Blondie, (Golden Star), who was bred once but did not conceive.

In what was her last litter, born April 7, 1977, Tassie whelped two dogs and two bitches by her grandson, Ch. Bojang Dixie Dewdrop, a son of Ch. Ching El Chang out of a bitch called Ch. Taramont Samantha, who goes back to both English and Scandinavian lines. One dog and one bitch were on the larger side, with the male weighing ten pounds at four months; the brindle and white bitch is just beginning her show career. The smaller bitch

in this litter is gold and white and will mature at twelve pounds. She is out on breeding terms. The smaller dog is a very bright gold and white named Charing Cross Bells 'R Ringing (Beau). He, too, is just beginning his show career. And he will be a very useful stud for us to cross back to our own line. He has just been bred to Charing Cross Dolley Madison, a bitch from the Tassie-Cheeky litter of five. This is a very concentrated line-breeding.

With the maturing of the two bitch puppies of the Great Gatsby and Belinda, we will be able to see if we are heading in the right direction. Both Dr Sanchez and I hope to continue breeding on a limited basis in the future. As long as I am only judging Shih Tzu, I feel that this is proper, but once I begin to judge the Toy Group, I will have to give up my showing activities.

Gilbert S. Kahn  
March 1978

## THE SHIH TZU HEAD AND EXPRESSION – by M. Ouvaroff

Head and expression undoubtedly establish Shih Tzu breed type and character, and the importance of a balanced, well proportioned one cannot be over emphasised. Balance may well be the operative word here, as the various components and their placement are what constitutes an ideal head, with it's 'rather human expression' mentioned in the standard.

The standard reads, 'Heads, broad and round, naturally this means broad in keeping with the dog's body size, but what is not mentioned is that the skull should be broader from side to side than from front to back - this allows for the correspondingly correct wide set eyes and nose placement, giving a wide, open faced appearance. A point to mention here, the brow should be fairly upright not sloping away too steeply behind the eyes, which gives the face a slightly bumpy look, and is most untypical. Actual head size is always relative to the size of the dog, but, in my opinion, even in smaller type Shih Tzu, a certain boldness of head is most attractive.

'Wide between the eyes' - is the next requirement listed in the standard, once more balance is the thing to be borne in mind. Obviously a larger specimen will appear to have wider placed eyes than a smaller one, and this is where the hands as well as the eye may determine things - well arched cheekbones, and correct frontal positioning of the eyes, coupled with the desired high nose placement may be felt as well as seen. Size of eyes may sometimes be a confusing issue when assessing a head - while round lustrous eyes, frontally placed, is what is looked for, on no account should they be over large or protruberant, and should show no white. This has appeared in the breed from time to time, and probably in an otherwise good specimen would not be penalised greatly. However, it is incorrect and must not be allowed to become too readily accepted. Incidentally, a cleverly prepared head, may well hide imperfections in head proportions, and judges must learn to feel these out when carrying out their examinations. Heights and breadth of head can be manufactured by clever grooming, and profuse furnishings, can sometimes be deceptive. With regard to head furnishings, the standard reads 'shock headed, with hair falling well over the eyes etc! This virtually applies only to young puppies, as does the term 'Chrysanthemum like effect - with hair growing upwards on the nose. Today we expect to see the topknot and beard parted, tied, and placed to give the 'Oriental Old Gentleman' look.

Now we come to muzzle - square and short, the standard says, but not wrinkled like a Pekingese - Here, we have a fairly complex combination of factors to take into account, foreface, stop, nostrils, jaw and chin, all play a part in the correct muzzle. Possibly the single most telling component part of the head would be the chin - for without a strong powerful chin, the muzzle has very little chance of complying with the standard. I think the Bulldog terminology of 'turn up' is relevant. Good turn up allows for width of jaw, to give room for the desirable six incisors top and bottom. Many short faced breeds have only four, which, in an otherwise worthy specimen is acceptable, but is not to be encouraged. Width of jaw, in turn, makes for a well padded muzzle, which goes with the correct stop and nose placement.

The shortness of foreface is of utmost importance, as here we get to the 'nitty, gritty' of expression. The standard quotes, 'the nose, ideally about an inch from tip to stop, or as 1 is to 4, allowing for the size of the dog, should stem from a pronounced stop, level with, or just below the eye-rim, with the bridge of the nose level. Any extra length of foreface seems to be coupled with lack of skull overstrong underjaw may produce an overly high nose placement between the eyes, which is Pekey or monkey faced, also untypical.

The mouth - The standard reads 'to be level or slightly underhung - The jaw should be square and I quote Audrey Dadds here, as her term puts a picture in the mind, 'To give the Chinese lion-like appearance, and whether the bite is level or undershot, the upper lips should come over the lower when the mouth is closed, with no teeth showing. The lips

SHIH TZU - LIASA APST & WHERE THEY DIFFER - by MILYAN SIMON

EVEN NOW, when many have acquired the Shih Tzu, many people interested in the breed are still asking questions about the breed.

should be well defined, and should look rather human, the Oriental Old Gentleman again! They should be black, (or dark brown in liver or light coloured dogs).

We've discussed nose placement, but nothing of the nose itself - Wide nostrils are preferred, tight nostrils can produce respiratory problems, however wide nostrils do not necessarily mean over large, rubbery noses to be correct, the size of the nose is governed by, and to be in proportion with, the size of the dog.

The standard continues - Ears to be large, with long leathers, and carried drooping - Set slightly below the crown of the skull, so heavily clothed with hair to appear to blend with the hair of the neck - This is quite straightforward, and the judge's hand and eye should be able to assess correctness here - Fly away ears give a rather 'Scatty' look, which is quite foreign, usually they are also set on too high - while too low set ears will give the appearance of 'apple headedness'. again untypical.

The question of eye colour, and pigment must be discussed - the standard states - Nose to be black for preference - but we find that in liver, or light coloured dogs, lighter coloured noses, eyes and lips are quite acceptable. Pigment on muzzle to be unbroken as possible, logical, as obvious areas of broken pigment will affect an otherwise pleasing facial expression. Naturally the colour factor is relevant here, faulty pigment is much more noticeable in the lighter colours.

I feel that the most vital point in assessing the merits of Shih Tzus heads is the overall effect. Any one point, if exaggerated, can upset the entire balance, though in itself, not be tremendously important. Harmony is the keynote - always.

M. Ouvaroff  
March 1978

The measurements and proportions in all cases are taken from the tip of the nose to the tip of the ear, the tip of the ear to the tip of the nose leather.

In the Shih Tzu the nose leather is flat, broad and rather ragged. It is not curled back as in the Pekingese. The backing of the nostrils gives that square appearance which is seen from the front. The Shih Tzu has a definite and distinctive tip to the nose leather, and the nostrils are rounded in profile because there is little or no padding on the sides which would prevent the nostrils from the front. Both breeds have strong underjaws with droop, the Shih Tzu having a more pronounced droop over the eye.

As regards the body conformation - One could go into great detail on the subject of the Shih Tzu and Pekingese but that would only confuse the issue. The Shih Tzu has no special reason why the Shih Tzu or the Liasa Apst should be shorter or longer or straight or arched - both breeds have good but not perfect angles where the neck is expected. Neither breed is expected to be 'cut in' or 'cut out' from any other combination of conformation.

Before we get any further, let us point out a similarity in both breeds. They are both about the same of the tip of the shoulder (referred to as such in the Liasa Apst standard) or withers (equal part in the Shih Tzu standard - which gives a maximum height of 10 1/2"). As might be expected, these height clauses in both standards bring in varieties a range of heights, however, it is not until it is that most specimens of both breeds they are in striking contrast with no within acceptable limits, and they will meet only the very few that are either too tall or too heavy for the size and look.

At this moment in time there are other things most urgent to consider. At present, the majority in the past and future too, there are a lot of Shih Tzus that are more Liasa Apst type in body, and more like Liasa Apst and a number of Liasa Apst which have bodies similar to that of the Shih Tzu.

The Shih Tzu is a breed of dogs that the Liasa Apst in construction it is "cut in" to the point of the nose leather, the tip of the ear to the tip of the nose leather, the tip of the nose leather to the tip of the ear, the tip of the ear to the tip of the nose leather.

## SHIH TZU – LHASA APSO & WHERE THEY DIFFER - by Frances Sefton

EVEN NOW, after many years of acquaintance in the showring, many people, including judges, find it hard to recognise the differences between those two long-coated Orientals, the Shih Tzu and the distantly related Lhasa Apso.

There are several superficial similarities between the two breeds – size, colours, long coats, coat distribution on the body, tails carried over the back – and these similarities are because of their relationship, stemming as they do from similar ancestral stock.

“The Shih Tzu is the one with its top-knot tied up!” crack the smarties. But the distinguishing characteristics are far more marked than that. And it is important that breeders, exhibitors and judges of both breeds get the “feel” of the all-important breed distinctions. Loss of type in either breed can be disastrous in the long run.

Let us deal firstly with the head. Both breeds have the short-faced Asian “brachycephalic” head, but not in an extreme form.

The Shih Tzu is the more markedly oriental of the two breeds. One could range the short heads from Pekingese, to Shih Tzu, to Lhasa Apso, to Maltese, the latter being on the almost normal ‘long-head’ end of the scale.

The Shih Tzu skull is broad and round, the eyes round but not bulging, and frontally placed. When viewed full-face there is an ‘owl-like’ quality to the expression. It has a typical Chinese quality about it.

In contrast, the Lhasa Apso skull is narrower at the cranium, not round at all. The widest part is at eye level, and the eyes, although also frontally placed, are shaped more like human eyes.

In profile, the Shih Tzu head shows proportions of approximately 4 to 1 (skull to fore-face) and the Lhasa Apso has proportions of 2 to 1 (the normal long-headed dog is nearer to the 1 to 1 proportions - skull equal to foreface).

Measurements and proportions in all cases are taken from the back of the skull to the stop and the stop to the tip of the nose leather.

In the Shih Tzu the nose leather is flat, broad and rather negroid, but not pushed back as in the Pekingese. The padding of the muzzle gives that square appearance when viewed from the front. The Lhasa Apso has a definite and distinctive tip to the nose leather, and the muzzle is blunted in profile; because there is little or no padding the muzzle is more like a vertical rectangle from the front. Both breeds have strong underjaws with depth, the Shih Tzu having a slight turn-up to the lower jaw.

NOW TO SOME POINTS of body conformation. One could go into great detail on the required angulation of fronts and back ends in each breed, but this would only confuse the issue. Let us assume that there is no special reason why the Shih Tzu or the Lhasa Apso should be upright in shoulder or straight in stifle - both breeds have good but not exaggerated angulation where it would be expected! Neither breed is expected to be ‘out in elbow’ or ‘loose in front’ or suffering from any other abomination of conformation.

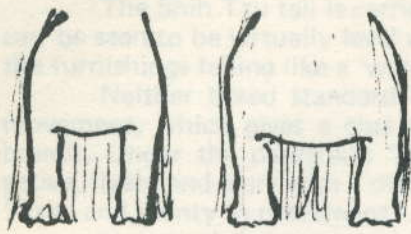
Before we go any further, let us point out a similarity in both breeds. They are both within the area of the 10” at the shoulders (referred to as such in the Lhasa Apso standard) or withers (word used in the Shih Tzu standard - which gives a maximum height of 10½”). As might be expected, these height clauses in both standards bring in practice a range of heights; however, judges can take it that most specimens of both breeds they see in the ring will be within acceptable limits, and they will meet only the very few that are either too small and flimsy or too large and coarse.

At this moment in time there are other things more urgent to consider. At present, alas, probably in the past and future too, there are a lot of Shih Tzus that are more Lhasa Apso type in body, and move like Lhasa Apsos, and a number of Shih Tzus which have bodies similar to that of the Shih Tzu.

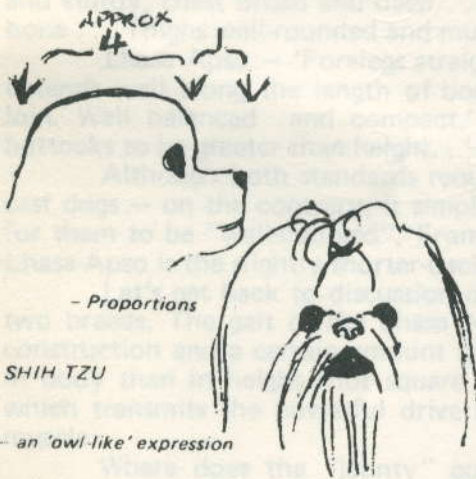
Consider now these key differences.

The Shih Tzu is deeper in chest than the Lhasa Apso. In consequence it is ‘lower to the ground’. The Lhasa Apso has ‘more leg’.

The Shih Tzu is broader in chest than the Lhasa Apso.

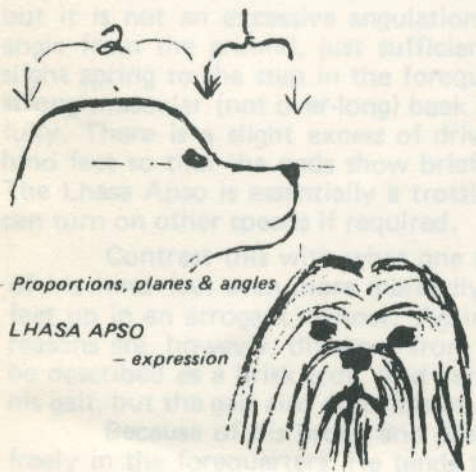


Compare the width of chest in Lhasa Apso & Shih Tzu. The Shih Tzu is broader in chest.



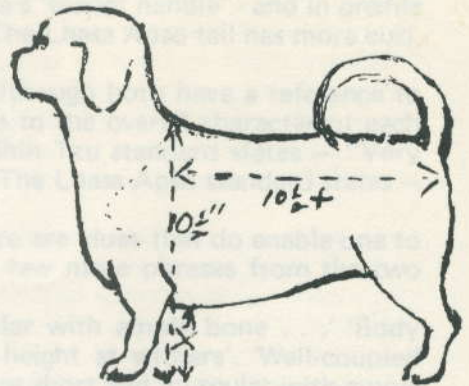
SHIH TZU

- an 'owl-like' expression

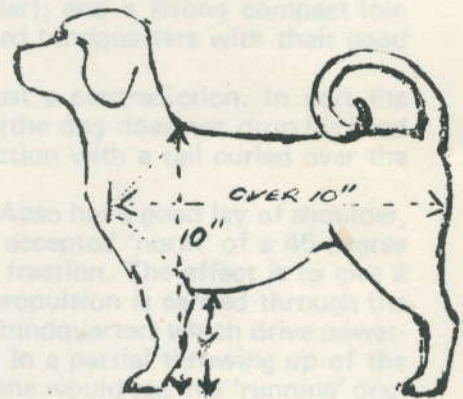


LHASA APPO

- expression



The body of the Shih Tzu should be proportioned like this — length from withers to root of tail greater than height at withers. This breed frequently seems 'smaller' and lower to the ground than the Lhasa Apso although the shoulder height is within the same range. Extra depth of chest makes the distance marked X less than the distance marked Y in the Lhasa Apso (sketch below). Note how the elbows are well up in the body. The Shih Tzu is a heavier set dog than the Lhasa Apso.



The body of the Lhasa Apso has length from point of shoulder to point of buttocks greater than the height at the shoulders. Compare the apparent length of leg and the distance marked Y with the sketch of the Shih Tzu (above).

The Shih Tzu has heavier, sturdier bone than the Lhasa Apso.

The Shih Tzu has a shorter, thicker neck than the Lhasa Apso.

The Shih Tzu tail is carried gaily over the back - like a 'teapot handle' - and in profile can be seen to be virtually level with the top of the head. The Lhasa Apso tail has more curl, the furnishings falling like a 'waterfall' to one side or other.

Neither breed standard has a paragraph on gait, although both have a reference to movement, which gives a clue (not only to gait but also to the overall character of each breed). Under the paragraph 'General Appearance' the Shih Tzu standard states - "Very active, lively and alert with a distinctly arrogant carriage." The Lhasa Apso standard states - "Free and jaunty in movement".

Not much help, one might think. Except that there are clues that do enable one to interpret the correct movement for both. Let us take a few more phrases from the two standards, and analyse their effect.

Shih Tzu - 'Forequarters. Legs short and muscular with ample bone . . .' 'Body between withers and root of tail should be longer than height at withers'. 'Well-coupled and sturdy, chest broad and deep . . .' 'Hindquarters. Legs short and muscular with ample bone . . . Thighs well-rounded and muscular.'

Lhasa Apso - 'Forelegs straight.' '. . . Well ribbed up' (this means that the rib cage extends well along the length of body - it does not mean barrel shaped rib cage); 'Strong loin. Well balanced and compact,' 'body length from point of shoulders to point of buttocks to be greater than height. . .' 'Hindquarters - well developed with good muscle.'

Although both standards require more length of body than height, neither is a long-cast dogs - on the contrary, it simply means they are not square dogs; both standards ask for them to be "well-coupled". From the wording of the standards it will be seen that the Lhasa Apso is the slightly shorter-backed dog of the two.

Let's get back to discussion of how all these points affect the distinctive gaits of the two breeds. The gait of the Lhasa Apso is "free" because it has a certain normality in its construction and a certain amount of 'leg', depth of chest being to the elbow, a little longer in body than in height (not square like the Tibetan Terrier); and a strong compact loin which transmits the powerful drive from the well developed hindquarters with their good muscle.

Where does the "jaunty" come in? It seems almost a contradiction. In part the jauntiness is visual - at a trot the head is usually held up (the dog does not drop his head until he begins to move at a fast trot) and this, in conjunction with a tail curled over the back, does give the impression of 'jauntiness'.

However, there is more to it than that. The Lhasa Apso has a good lay of shoulder, but it is not an excessive angulation. It is slightly off the accepted 'norm' of a 45 degree angle from the ground, just sufficient to trim the reach a fraction. The effect is to give a slight spring to the step in the forequarters. The forward propulsion is carried through the strong muscular (not over-long) back and strong loin to the hindquarters which drive powerfully. There is a slight excess of drive, and this is released in a partial throwing up of the hind feet so that the pads show briefly, a little more than one would see in a 'running' dog. The Lhasa Apso is essentially a trotting dog; a brisk trot is its natural pace even though it can turn on other speeds if required.

Contrast this with what one sees with the Shih Tzu. The Shih Tzu displays the pads of his hind feet even more markedly when he moves away from you - really throwing his feet up in an arrogant manner. Again, this is because of the excess of hindquarter drive; the reasons are, however, different from the Lhasa Apso. The Shih Tzu movement could never be described as a brisk trot. And "arrogant carriage" really describes his bearing, rather than his gait, but the gait also contributes to the bearing.

Because of his broad and deep chest and short legs, the Shih Tzu cannot reach out freely in the forequarters. He tends to move 'wide' in the front, never bringing his feet towards each other to form a single track. It is impossible for him to do so. Additionally, because of the breadth of chest, the shoulder blades tend to be set more widely than they

would be on a narrower chested dog — the best way I can describe this is by quoting the Bulldog standard which describes the shoulders of that breed as being "tacked on". Now although the Shih Tzu shoulders do not approach the exaggeration of the Bulldog's, nevertheless, viewed from the front they can be seen to be placed in a way that they widen out to join the upper arm. The front legs (which are 'short') move forward perfectly parallel. Soundness in the Shih Tzu front means that the elbows and shoulders are firm, no looseness or wobble, elbows close, not stuck out; and that the feet move straight forward. The standard does not say anything about the front legs being straight, but it is my opinion that they should be as straight as possible, and that any tendency towards a Pekinges front (which is a further exaggeration in type) should be avoided if possible.

The forward motivation of the Shih Tzu movement is accompanied by a powerful drive from the muscular hindquarters, and the excess that cannot be taken up is flicked out through the hindquarters in the unique action. The Shih Tzu rump is broad, not light like a Peke's, so although there is a slight tendency, best seen from above, for the body to 'roll' from side to side, it is in no way to excess.

From this combination of individual movements, combined with the head and tail carriage comes that 'arrogance' that is so typical. And while the Shih Tzu should not be able to move with that free light briskness of the Lhasa Apso, nevertheless his gait has a liveliness and sparkle quite different from the majestic bearing of the Pekinges.

This can only be a summary of the major differences between the two breeds; the rough sketches illustrate some of the points that can be readily identified without too much research into more subtle details.

In conclusion, I can only suggest that breeders and exhibitors in each breed try to avail themselves of the opportunity to go over some specimens of the other breed. You may get a few surprises!

Frances Sefton  
March 1978



## COAT TEXTURE IN SHIH TZUS by Gay Widdrington

The English standard for COAT in Shih Tzus says: LONG & DENSE BUT NOT CURLY WITH GOOD UNDERCOAT, and this has not changed since the standard was formulated by Gen. Sir Douglas Brownrigg, with the help of the Kennel Club in the early 1930's. Much later when the breed really became established in U.S.A. (1969) they added to the clause on COAT: LUXURIOUS long and dense, MAY BE SLIGHTLY WAVY but not curly, good WOOLY undercoat. THE HAIR ON TOP OF THE HEAD MAY BE TIED UP. The above (in capital letters) are all additions to the good, except that: MAY be tied up, could be changed for SHOULD, as this is an important feature which differentiates externally the Shih Tzu from the Lhasa Apso. As far as I know, other K.C.s follow one of these standards.

Nothing is said about TEXTURE. In point of fact the coat should look harsher than it feels. It should not be too soft and silky like a Yorkie (a nightmare to keep untangled in the Shih Tzu), nor too coarse like a terrier. When you take a handful of it, the coat should have a smooth resilience, standing slightly out from the body, due to the undercoat.

In early days, coats were often too curly or frizzy, spoiling the appearance of the dog. Often it was not understood that if the puppy-coat was not combed out, it would become hopelessly matted, and some people believed this to be the "good undercoat". The Shih Tzu does not shed hairs all over the place like some breeds, but at change of coat it will usually get hopelessly matted unless attended to.

I may say that coat do still vary a lot in texture, but each import into England seems to have improved that coat and made it easier to deal with, as if an outcross does it good. In my kennel, my oldest Shih Tzu, now 17, has the impossible very soft type of early coat, which mats very easily and absorbs the dirt readily.

My younger dogs are much easier. Tai-tai for instance, has a luxurious coat with correct undercoat which never gets matted, and sheds dirt and wet naturally. My goldens are the same, but some do not have enough undercoat, though this has been improved in young stock. The easy type of coat should obviously be encouraged providing it is correct in texture and undercoat. Coat growth still varies: some pups go badly out of coat about the time they cut their second teeth, and a bitch of this type will usually go out of coat again when in season. It is more correct for a pup just to go on steadily coating up, providing that great care is taken in removing the dead puppy-coat when the time comes, and encourage the growth of the adult coat.

### COAT CARE

There are many different opinions on this and of course care has to differ according to different temperatures and circumstances. In England perhaps we are fortunate in living in a moderate dampish climate which is naturally good for coats.

The Chinese, it is said, never combed their Shih Tzus, but patiently parted the matted undercoat with finger and thumb, then brushed thoroughly when any dead under or top-coat would come out. In those days there was plenty of TIME!

I believe in brushing daily, as with human hair, to stimulate the scalp and roots and to keep the hair clean. Combing is best done only about once a week, right to the skin, but very gingerly.

To groom, first wipe the muzzle and beard with a damp cloth, also round the eyes, and check the eyes to see that the surrounds are not sore and the eyes are clear from any signs of ulcerating. (If so, consult your vet - it is a rare phenomenon in a healthy dog). Hard matter in corners of eyes can be removed with finger and thumb. If wh. whiskers are inclined to stain yellow, an eye lotion, such as Optrex can gradually remove this, but you must be patient. For brushing, having wiped the face and eyes, turn the dog on its back on a

table (you should have trained it from puppyhood so that it is relaxed,) and brush the legs and tummy, the wrong way and then down the right way, removing of course any twigs, leaves, etc. A male should be kept trimmed round his private parts, and wiped over with another cloth for hygiene. His side coat may need wiping as well, especially if he has cocked his leg in a wind! A bitch should be kept trimmed round her vulva, and any nasty hard matter removed. When in season, the blood should be rinsed off daily until about two days before she is due for mating (when the bleeding has usually stopped anyway, but don't worry if it doesn't - some Shih Tzus go on bleeding for the full 3 weeks, even after mating).

To carry on with grooming, stand the dog the right way up on the table and brush the coat up the wrong way, starting from the head, then down the right way, starting from tail end, and of course including the tail. Part the hair down centre back with a steel knitting needle and brush hair down tidily on either side. Finish off with the head. Top-knot should not be removed everyday as this can break the hair. Pull out the rubber band with point of nail-clippers, and cut, taking care not to cut the hair as well. Brush out the hair and put on a new rubber band (buy in some small ones, and wrap them round the hair enough times so that they get a proper grip.) See that the band is not too tight against the scalp as this is uncomfortable for the dog. I actually use two bands, one about an inch above the nose to catch up the small hairs, and another higher up catching up the main bunch of hair on top of the head, and opening out sideways.

In caring for the dog, its comfort should come first. It is a good plan to trim unobtrusively round the anus which helps keep the bottom clean. Always inspect under the tail after grooming tail and gentle comb off any dry faeces. A diet with plenty of roughage should prevent loose stools. Some Shih Tzus have very tender skins and a rough combing can be torture, so go gently when getting out mats, doing a bit at a time if the dog gets distressed. Some people get very long coats which reach the ground and turn up. This is usually produced by artificial means - by never letting two play together after puppyhood, and keeping the coat oiled and in paper curlers, and never taking the dog for a country walk for fear the coat should get broken. But is not the Shih Tzu truly a tough and natural little dog, needing plenty of freedom and every chance to develop his independent and amusing nature? Certainly mine have complete liberty, have terrific games together, go for daily walks over fields or through woods in all weathers - soaked in the rain and balled up with snow (which they love playing in. And they still grow and keep heavy coats. I believe that it is bred from within, plus correct diet and exercise.) But conditions in towns and hot countries must produce their own problems and different forms of management are necessary. I know that there are many sophisticated medications, applications and foods on the market, but I know very little of these.

If the coat seems dry and brittle a teaspoon daily of olive oil or extra fat in the diet can help. A very little almond oil applied to the tips can prevent them breaking.

**BATHING.** A matted dog should NEVER be bathed until the mats have been parted and combed out, as these will shrink tight to the skin and cause discomfort, and become impossible to unravel without cutting. A good canine or human shampoo should be used and the dog rinsed two or three times. Never use detergent. Rain water is excellent. It is good to dry with a hair-dryer or electric blower, brushing all the time. Or in hot weather the dog can run about outside and be brushed out afterwards. How often one bath depends on conditions. As I do not show any more, my dogs get bathed about twice a year. A dog should be bathed about two or three days before a show, so that the natural oils have time to return to the hair and settle it down. Muzzle and paws can be washed again the day of the show, and white whiskers powdered just before entering the ring. I do not otherwise like powder for cleansing as it clogs the pores, gets up one's nose and the dog's.

If a dog gets wet in the rain, do not dry roughly with a harsh towel, as this breaks the coat, but pad dry with an old cotton sheet which is very absorbent. A dog balled up with snow should be stood in warm water in the sink to melt the snow, then dried.

Inside the ears should be inspected regularly and any hair which have worked their way in, hooked out with point of comb. Earlier stock would grow thick hair right inside their ears. This could be removed by squirting in an ear-powder (to get a grip) and plucking out the hair with finger and thumb. If there is any sign of canker or a cankerish smell, consult your vet. It is a good idea to soap and rinse muzzle about once a week to keep free from grease or extraneous stain.

Some people raise their hands in horror if you mention clipping a Shih Tzu, but sometimes this is kinder, say for a pet dog which gets easily matted, and it will usually take on a new lease of life once its skin can breathe again.

Incidentally a coat which has been clipped will grow in better than ever.

Some people just do not have the knack or ability to groom regularly and correctly. A "puppy-clip" looks very sweet - hair cut all over to 1 - 1½" twice a year. Top-knot likewise, or left according to taste. Tails and ears look better left long. Some people clip a few of their broods for convenience sake. Of course a brood bitch will naturally go out of coat when her pups are a few weeks old. Broods should be washed under their tails after whelping and daily thereafter until all discharge ceases. Dry well before returning her to the nest. I always clip round the back area of a bitch before whelping, also round the teats.

Of course a show-dog should never show any signs of having been clipped or cut. I favour a coat which just clears the ground, long beard, whiskers and ear-fringes in the adult and long plumed tail, and top-knot falling centrally over the back, plus good leg furnishings.

In caring for your dog, do not forget to attend to nails and dew-claws (i.e. keep them clipped to about 1/8" beyond the quick. Anal glands should be squozen at least twice a year, and teeth inspected and extracted when necessary - all of which would carry me on chasing another hair, I mean 'hare', so I'll just end now and wish you all the best of luck and happy companionship from your dogs.

Gay Widdrington  
Lhakang Shih Tzus, U.K.  
January 1978

(This paper will be read by Mrs P Bales on behalf of Mrs Widdrington)

## COAT CARE - THE SHIH TZU by Pam Bales

As many owners of Shih Tzu realize, they are not an easy breed to care for coatwise, many hours of hard work will be required, and to keep a Shih Tzu in show condition, requires constant care and attention.

As in any long coated breed, his beauty is enhanced by his long flowing coat and a properly cared for coat reflects the owners dedication.

### THE YOUNG PUPPY

Start at an early age to get puppy used to being bathed and his coat dried with a hair dryer.

When bathing, a mild shampoo such as baby shampoo is ideal as it won't sting his eyes, rinse well and follow with a conditioning rinse.

Stand the puppy on a table and using a nylon and bristle or a small pin brush, dry the puppy quickly, brushing the hair away from the body, use dryer on a low to medium heat to avoid burning the skin.

When dry, check the ears and remove any hairs by plucking out with finger and thumb or tweezers, a little boracic powder sprinkled on the hair first makes it easier to grasp. Clip the nails, keep these as short as possible.

As the puppy gets older, train him to lay on his side as it is much easier to groom your dog this way.

### THE YOUNG ADULT

During this stage the puppy will begin to shed his fluffy puppy coat and grow in the stronger coat of an adult. You will find that the coat will have to be groomed every day, often twice a day if really bad, and at this stage the application of a light oil can help by preventing the coat from clinging together. It must be remembered however when using oil on a dog's coat that it should never be allowed to dry out, if allowed to do so the matts will be almost impossible to remove.

Coat conditioner mixed with water and brushed through the dog's coat is also very good.

Lie the dog on his side and using a knitting needle or tail comb, part the coat in layers lightly spray with your mixture of coat conditioner and water and brush through, teasing out carefully any mats as you go, dont saturate the coat.

Any staining on face can usually be removed by applications of boracic powder, use dry and apply as often as possible, don't allow your dog to lick it off as it is poisonous.

Tie back or wrap the moustaches as the dog quite often eats these off along with his dinner!

Ears, topknot and body coat can be kept wrapped to prevent the hair from breaking off. You can use either chux or plastic eg. garbage bags. Cut these into oblong strips, place the hair in the centre and fold lengthwise into three, this is then folded from the bottom upwards, again into three, then secured with a rubber band. Be careful when wrapping ears that the bottom of the ear leather doesn't get caught in the band.

Never leave a dog you have wrapped with any others as you'll find they love to remove the wrappers along with the precious hair you're trying to grow!

Use latex bands to tie up the topknot and always cut off with scissors, pulling off breaks the hair, latex bands can also be used to tie back the moustaches and should be cut off and replaced daily. Faces usually get wet and smelly and should be washed daily.

Finally - be sure to keep your dogs in top condition - a poorly groomed dog rarely wins.

Pam Bales  
March 1978