

# Newsletter



NO 45

MARCH 1992

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.  
Committee for 1991/92

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	Mr Barry Elliott	43 5340	Public Officer
<u>VICE PRESIDENT (1)</u>	Mr Colin Humphreys	50 2104	Training Supervisor
<u>VICE PRESIDENT (2)</u>	Mr Anton Pape	55 1618	Canteen Manager
<u>SECRETARY</u>	Mrs Lisa Blackwell	48 6208	
<u>TREASURER</u>	Mrs Margaret Burgess	61 3812	Property Officer
<u>ASS. SECRETARY/ TRIAL SECRETARY</u>	Mr David Blackwell	48 6208	Bar Manager/Club Nominee
<u>GENERAL COMMITTEE</u>	Mr Robert Beckingham		Assistant Publicity Officer/Assistant Social Co-Ordinator
	Mr Meinhard Brieberg	78 2296	Assistant Ground Manager
	Mr Bronco Ivec	55 2225	Ground Manager
	Mr Wayne Feldman	53 1030	Hall Manager
	Miss Leonie Kelleher	43 1277	Social Co-Ordinator
	Mrs Carleen McClure	75 1149	Publicity Officer

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The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All committee and sub-committee reports bear the name of the respective officer.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO P.O. BOX 186, GEELONG, V. 3220

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GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.

NEWSLETTER NO. 45

This Newsletter is produced bi-monthly and is distributed on the last training day of that month.

Welcome to all our new members, may you find your association with our Club a rewarding one, not just for the progress you make in training your dog to become an acceptable member of your household, but in the new friendships you make with your fellow classmates and/or competitors.

Having not been at the Club this year due to illness I missed out on attending the meeting that was held here with Graham Ernst and the V.C.A. representative in attendance on the Companion Animal Act. However, many more comments are appearing in the papers daily and in this month's edition of ON LEAD/OFF LEAD there is a clear layout of the major issues to be considered and/or debated.

Apart from that one thing that keeps coming up is fees for dogs, and Dr. Smith, the General Manager of the Lost Dogs Home and a member of the Government's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee states in several articles in the Herald/Sun "That he expected fees for desexed dogs to be about \$10 (pensioners) and \$30, with an intermediate fee for dogs with obedience qualifications or membership of such things as the Victorian Canine Association."

The point I raise here is that as of last year, one Shire in this area introduced fees of \$50.00 for entire dogs, and after representations and petitions from our Club concurred that this fee would be reduced if the person owning the entire animal could prove by not only showing their current membership card of the K.C.C. (now V.C.A.), but also that the animal in question was BEING shown or was used for breeding stock.

Now this was certainly a concession for those falling into that category, but that still left people paying higher fees than in other areas and the same applies in 1992.

If this new legislation is passed WHAT price are they going to charge then, and does this Shire have a proveable bigger dog problem than other areas in the region?

I believe this is worth both thinking about and watching.

A reminder to members that our AGILITY trial is on April 5.

Training WILL be held on this date, with training times as follows:

Classes 2, 3 and Puppy 9.00-9.45am  
Class 1 10.00-10.45am

Classes will return to their normal time slots the following week.

If you haven't seen an AGILITY trial before, come along and support your competing club members. There will be a working bee on the day before so if you can spare some time, even if only an hour, it would be appreciated.

In closing I would like to thank the members who were so kind to me whilst hospitalized and for their ongoing support.

EL

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To all new members we from the Committee, welcome you to your Club and hope you enjoy your time with us.

As most members are aware we have been fighting the new Companion Animal Bill. It seems the Bill in it's present form will not be passed in Parliament. This was due to pressure put on Parliamentarians by concerned animal owners from the dog world. There were approximately 8000 letters delivered to Parliament House in protest about the Bill of which just over 2000 came from our Club. This was a marvellous effort and you as members are congratulated in signing all those letters. Thanks go to members who donated money, paper and envelopes to off-set the cost to the Club. Thanks also to the members who helped sort, fold and put in envelopes all letters that were sent.

To the members who formed the sub-committee to sift through the proposed Bill and list all questions that were presented to Mr G. Ernst, thank you for a great effort. Even though Mr Ernst gave up his time to come to the Club and answer the questions, he proved one thing, he is a true polly, by going around in circles and not replying directly to most questions. Thanks also to the ladies who provided supper on the night.

As you can see we now have a Trophy Cabinet on the wall in the hall. Thanks go to our resident cabinet maker for making and hanging same. Soon glass will be installed in the front to finish it. To the person who repaired the ceiling in the bar area and the window in the ladies toilet, thanks again for your time and effort. To the person who has helped with updating our communications at the Club, thank you, as this is much appreciated by the office staff. To the people who have supported the Display Team in promoting our Club at different venues, thanks for your time and effort. Once again to the Instructors and Committee people who work hard in running our Club, thanks for your effort in making this, our Club, the best in the State.

To our Editor, now that you are out of hospital, we all hope you have a quick recovery.

Most members might not know that Meinhard Brieberg is going overseas to visit his sister and family, and will be away for approximately six months. To you Meinhard, we all wish you a safe and enjoyable trip.

Don't forget to come into the Clubrooms on training days to listen to announcements, so you can be kept informed on everything that is happening at your Club.

BARRY ELLIOTT  
PRESIDENT

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS .....

PETER & DIANE BARCLAY	DEREK WALTER/ YVONNE WALDRON	VINCE & MONIKA GINGITTA
JOHN & LUCIA STANEK	DAVID BELL	KAREN BROWN
KAYLENE & CARLO NOFI	IAN CULLEN	JENNY BROWN
BILL & MARIE KUKANOVSKI	GREAME & GAYLE CREED	SHARON FRANKLIN
THE RIDYARD FAMILY	LYNDA & RICK TARTICCHIO	JAN & PETER McNEIL
MARK & JANICE MARSHALL	ROSS McLACHLAN/ DENA BARBER	HELEN & WARREN FITZGERALD
GERARD CALLUS	JOHN & JOSEPHINE CARUANA	NIKKI McCAULEY
C McCURLEY	ESTHER FORD	SANDOR & LEANNE ORCSIK
DARREN KNIGHT/ SAMANTHA PENNEY	MICHELLE BROWN/ GLEN ANDERSON	
GERARD DINGEMANS	JOHN BARTOLO	RAY FRY
PATRICIA CLOSE	LEONIE CLEMENTS	BEV & DAVID DONALD
LOUISE KERWIN	JENNY FORDYCE	ANGELA BATTAGLIA
D DOBSON	DAMIAN & TINA BONNEY	THE SMINK FAMILY
GREG PRICE	WENDY BRENNAN	THE KELLY FAMILY
LOUISE ASPINALL	JEANETTE MARINO/ PAUL FULTON	LEARNE BROWN
JOHN CALLANA	LEANNE & MIKE DUGDALE	KATHRIN & BRUCE DAVIDSON
MAT CADART	HEATHER EPPS	NIKKI & DONNA RICHARDS
VALERIE WALKER	BILL PATE	KIM McCALL
MERLE BEVERIDGE	SUSAN OSMAN/ MICHAEL PFAENDER	PETER & DEBBIE BARLOW
SAM OLIFF/ GEORGIE LAMB	MICHELLE & OWEN GOUGH	THE ZUPPIN FAMILY
STEPHEN & CLAIRE WRIGHT	SUE FOWLER	SARAH KERLEY
JASON & GERALDINE ORIFICI	MARGARET BELL	MARY & CLIFF HERBISON
NAOMI HARRIS-LOFT	ANDREW JONES	ANDREW STRAHLE
CHRISTINE & GLEN VAN WICHEN		PETER NABER
THE WILSON FAMILY	THE SMITH FAMILY	LEONIE & JEFF MOSS
ARTHUR & BARBARA THOROGOOD	RENAI & PETER WATTS	LINDA & IAN GOLDING
SUE POLLARD/ TOM MILETIC	VIVIENNE SCHEFFER	PHILIP & BARBARA BOLGER
ANNE ARCHIBALD	ERNIE BEYERSDORFER	LYN Mc KENZIE
MARK JONES	SUSAN ARMSTRONG	CORALIE & KATIE CUTHBERTSON
BEV & ROY TYLER	MICHAEL & ELIZABETH PLESA	SUE & COLIN HALSON
ANDREW CARROLL/ RHINDA ACKLAND		B ELLINGSEN
JOANNE RICHES/ DAVID WILKINSON	BRIAN GARDINER	PATRICIA SCHRAMM
EDWINA BROWN	DAVID & LEANNE RHODES	TERRY GANLY
THE ERLER FAMILY	TREVOR & WENDY MELLROSE	JAN & DON MACKINNON
SCOTT & ANDREA DICKINSON	ROD BECKWITH	THE WOOD FAMILY
THE REA FAMILY	PAULA & DAVID SMITH	

LISA BLACKWELL  
SECRETARY

# SOCIAL CLUB NEWS....

Welcome back to training for 1992.  
It is time again for the social side of things to get up and running.

The sub-committee are desperately seeking new members to join the team. If you're interested please see me.

\* \* \* \* \*

## UP COMING EVENTS.

TEN PIN Bowling

Good Friday fish BBQ

Dancing

Beer, Wine & Cheese night

Please cut on the line.

Below are spaces for you the member, to make your suggestions of social functions for the social club to hold. Please return your suggestions to either your instructor or a committee person.

Thank-you.  
Leonie Kelleher  
Social Secretary.

1 _____	2 _____	3 _____
4 _____	5 _____	6 _____
7 _____	8 _____	9 _____
10 _____	11 _____	12 _____

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## THE AKITA INU

The Akita Inu (Akita Dog) is a Japanese dog, the apex of Nippon imports in the world of canines, a creature as Japanese as Haiku poetry and tea ceremonies, the Kabuki Theatre and Bonsai cultivation. An irresistible attention getter, the Akita personifies all the enigmatic character of the Orient.

Your first impression is that of an immensely powerful and imposing animal with massive chest and head, suggestive of a bear. It is possessed of a dignity of expression that defies description.

One of the most outstanding physical characteristics are the uniquely positioned ears, rather small, erect and triangular, set somewhat to the side of the head and slanting forward hooding the eyes.

The other is the bushy tail, carried over the back. Formidable in size, majestic in appearance, the Akita creates the impression of instant grandeur; inspires immediate respect. The tail should be carried over the back, in a three-quarter, full or double curl.

Combine the physical stature with a sober, calm disposition, fearless yet steady, and you have a dog that is not given to tantrums; one that does not go berserk when confronted with unusual or sudden stress situations. Even as a puppy, the Akita displays a dignity virtually unknown in puppies of most other breeds. He goes through a sort of prestigious kindergarten stage, equipped with built-in self control. Even the battle of the puddle, and tug-of-war the first time on collar and lead are mostly matters to be taken in his stride.

With an uncanny ability, the Akita adjusts to and accepts widely varying circumstances and life styles; not as an imposition upon his canine freedom but as a way of life. Yet at the same time, he retains a remarkable aloof and free spirit. In short, disciplined social behaviour, quiet dignity and cat-like grace with which he moves, make this beautiful dog so highly desirable as a living companion. He is an ever patient playmate for small-fry, a no-nonsense protector of family and home. Most of all, he is a joy to own at all times and in any given situation.

Is it any wonder the Japanese refer to the Akita as their National Dog - with pride! The Japanese speak lovingly of the Akita Inu as being **TENDER IN HEART** and **STRONG IN STRENGTH** - the dog that begins where others leave off.

The Akita comes in all colours - including all white and all black. In Australia the Akita loses coat twice, sometimes three times a year. This is definitely something to consider if you are looking for a dog who will live inside the house with you and your family. When the Akita loses coat, that is exactly what happens, his coat drops out and at this time it is impossible to have him in the house with you and it will be necessary for you to provide an outside fenced area with a warm dry bed.

The Akita is easily trained if you have patience and understanding. The Akita will not be forced to work, but when trained with love and acceptance of his pride and presence, is a pleasure to work in the Obedience Trial ring. The Akita is surprisingly agile for his size and clears the maximum 3 ft. jump with ease.

The Akita Inu Club recommends that your Akita is well socialised and that you also attend obedience classes.

The male Akita grows from 26-28" and the female from 24-26". The Akita is a fast growing puppy with solid bone, therefore diet plays an important part; especially in the first twelve months.

The Akita, as in most large breeds has hereditary problems. Some of the more common problems are:- H.D. (Hip-dysplasia), Ectropion, Patella problems and temperament problems as well as incorrect bite.

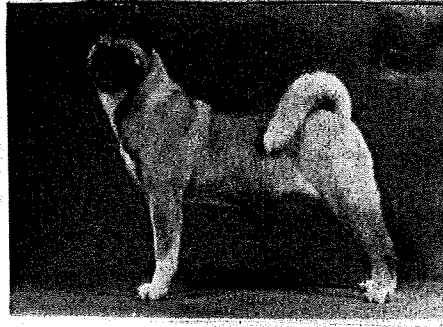
If a puppy runs away and hides in a corner when selecting your puppy, this is a puppy to be avoided. A true Akita temperament is playful and full of fun. A puppy should want to play, bite at your heels, and generally be a proper



THE AKITA INU (Cont..d)

little rascal that you would rather not have to take home. Look for this outgoingness when choosing your Akita puppy.

(Extracted from the Information Booklet produced by The Akita Inu Club of Victoria.)



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LIBRARY NEWS

ON-LEAD/OFF-LEAD a magazine for all dog owners.

Whether you own a pedigreed dog or a lovable mutt like mine ON-LEAD/OFF-LEAD, a new monthly publication, has something for you.

The editorial committment is "to be entertaining and informative for all dog owners no matter in what area their interests lie", and further, "to tell it like it is and if this be outspoken, so be it".

Regular monthly features include veterinary advice, specific breed features, agility, obedience, letters, competitions, questions and answers, and original stories.

January issue special features include agility training techniques, dog showing, the Sheltie, the Dingo etc. and Southern Obedience Club (20 photographs).

Throughout the magazine there are numerous high quality colour and black and white photographs of dogs, not just posing for a judge, but doing something interesting and obviously enjoying what they are doing.

Congratulations to our Victorian publishers!

ON-LEAD/OFF-LEAD is available for loan from the club library, or may be purchased at Newsagents at \$4.00 per copy, or by subscription (posted).

PHYL BERGIN  
LIBRARIAN

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A pedigree tells what you came from, but not where you are going.

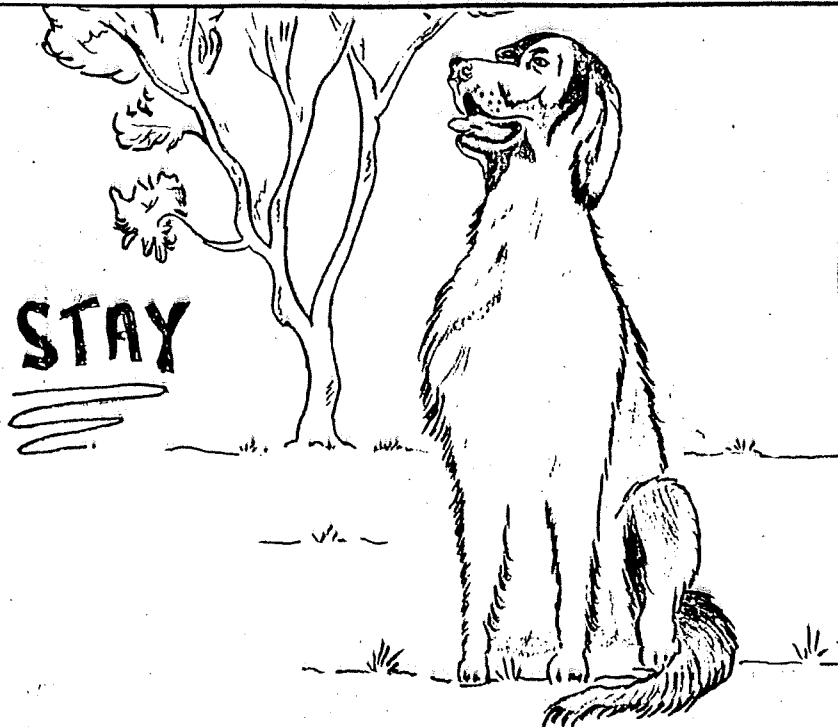
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# PRIVATE OBEDIENCE TRAINING

ANY AGE -  
ANY BREED

**STAY**



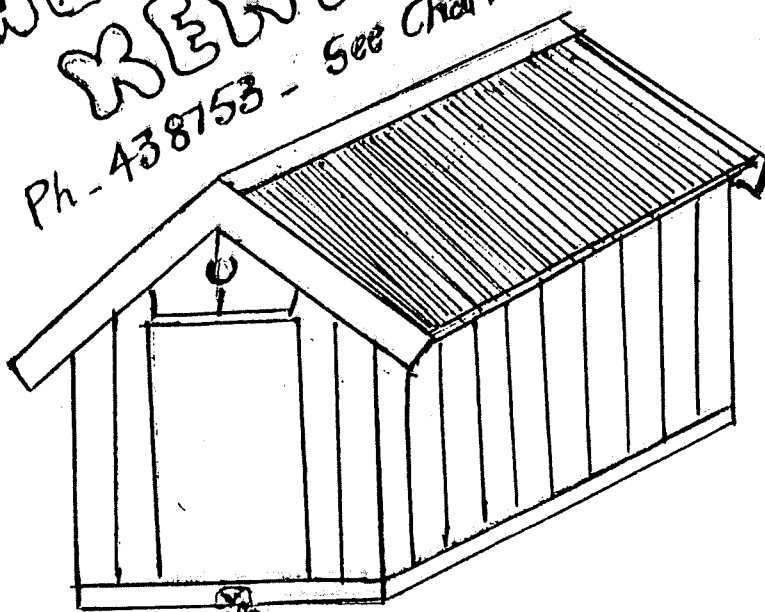
BASIC OBEDIENCE  
& PROBLEM DOGS

20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SEE

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KENNELS**  
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Inspect our range, we cater for all, big or small.

### DOGGONE

Make no bones about it: the best breed of actors lap it up in Hollywood. From silent movie star **RIN TIN TIN** to canine cop **JERRY LEE** in the comedy **K-9**, dogs come out on top in the four-legged film industry.

Cavalry dog "**RINNY**" braved gun-fights and indians at Fort Apache, Arizona. The original **RIN TIN TIN** (1916-32), found in a French trench in World War 1, was succeeded by three other German Shepherds in a five-year TV series.

But **ROSTY'S** sidekick was upstaged by a courageous collie called **LASSIE** (played by several males). The loyal and adventurous "**LADY**" became a children's legend after her debut in Eric Knight's best-selling 1940 novel **Lassie Come Home**.

**TOTO** followed the yellow brick road with Judy Garland in the 1939 hit **The Wizard of Oz** and cartoon canines captured hearts in **The Lady and the Tramp** (1955) and **101 Dalmatians** (1961).

Perhaps the most amazing doggie tale belongs to **BENJI**, star of the 1974 megahit of the same name. The scruffy mutt was found at a Californian animal shelter by trainer Frank Inn, christened **HIGGINS** and won a part on the CBS series **Petticoat Junction** (1963-70) before his major movie break.

Animal attraction even extends to pooch pin-ups. America's biggest selling magazine, **TV Guide**, featured a dog lover's darling called **DREYFUSS** on its January front cover.

**DREYFUSS**, an adorable St Bernard/Golden Retriever cross, appears on the US sitcom **Empty Nest**.

But another burly beast is set to muscle in on the big time. **BEETHOVEN**, a slobbery 65kg St Bernard, has been groomed for the lovable Hollywood hero tag.

The hairy heavyweight causes havoc for the Newton family in the Universal film **Beethoven** - digging giant holes in the back yard, destroying plants, dirtying carpets and bedspreads and stealing food from the kitchen table.

But in true talented fashion, he also helps nab a dog-stealing ring.

**BEETHOVEN'S** trainer, Karl Miller, says animals only respond to stunt commands if discipline is matched with affection.

"I always emphasize how much fun it is when I'm working with them. Dogs have the God-given gift of being born to please man, but they need lots of praise to encourage them," he says.

"Everytime you see **BEETHOVEN** crawl through a hole, swim in a pool or crouch down in a certain way I'm right there as well."

Miller worked with another St Bernard 10 years ago on **Cujo**, a film about a rabid family pet who menaces his masters. So Miller is glad **BEETHOVEN** portrays the breed in a nicer way. "A lot of St Bernard breeders were upset after **Cujo** because the dog in it was so vicious. This is a completely different movie."

The 51 year-old started working with animals on farms as a foster child. An entertainment industry trainer since 1963, he often acts as character doubles in heavy-contact scenes, such as wrestling, to make animals co-operate.

Miller's Lost Angeles business, **Animal Action**, houses 48 dogs, 24 cats and the odd squirrel, racoon, parrot, lizard and snake. He has trained animals for parts ranging from the humble chicken to ferocious mountain lions, and has won seven **Patsys** (the animal Oscar equivalent).

Dogs may be the most popular film stars, but pigs are among the most intelligent. Says Miller: "Pigs are very smart and pick up things easily, but because of their anatomy they can't be very versatile with stunts."

Cont...2

DOGGONE (Cont...d)

Man's best friend is one of the highest animal income earners commanding about \$300 a day plus trainer's fees.

And although pure-bred canines can be costly pets, mixed-blood mutts make better actors.

"Every pure-bred dog is bred for a certain purpose, such as hunting or guarding. German Shepherds are the most versatile pedigree but mongrels can usually do more tricks because they have more natural instincts," says Miller.

Miller insists life in the furry Hall of Fame does have its less glamorous side. **BEETHOVEN** had to shed almost 20kgs for his role, jogging several kilometres a day.

"They're just like any other actors, they have to keep in shape."

(Reprinted with kind permission of the author **KAREN COLLIER** and the **HERALD-SUN** newspaper.)

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MY SHADOW

*With much delight I happily accepted by 18th birthday present from my friends at work. A little black puppy with his own basket.*

*My tears of joy gave way to thoughts of what will Mum and Dad say, as we already had a dog at home, which was part of our family.*

*So I called Dad and asked him to pick me up from work, after he questioned me why, I had to tell him about my present.*

*On arrival home I was pleased to see my grandparents there as this gave me breathing space with mum. Of course everyone loved my puppy, who I called "Shadow".*

*When the grandparents had gone home I was ready for the lecture from mum. "Leonie," she said "you must walk "Shadow" and look after him yourself". Dad said that I should join the local obedience dog club and train him properly.*

*The local dog club was near home so I went down and made enquiries. Soon I was a member and this was the turning part of my life. "Shadow" quickly learned a basic bag of commands until he was six months old, from then on he learned all tricks and commands quickly.*

*Now "Shadow" is four years old and I have a great group of friends in the dog club while I also now help other members train their dogs with my role as an instructor.*

*This is why I write about how my life changed when my "Shadow" came into my life.*

Written by  
LEONIE KELLEHER

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If you are right there is no need to lose your temper. if you are wrong you can't afford to!

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# Does your pet have B.O. ?

## Are you having trouble with pet odour ?

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OBEDIENCE, AGILITY & TRACKING CALENDAR

OBEDIENCE

	<u>CLOSED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Moorabbin & District O.D.C.	Closed	5. 4.92
German Shepherd Dog Club of Vic. Inc. (R.O.T.)	Closed	10. 4.92
Dobermann Club of Vic. Inc. (R.O.T.)	Closed	11. 4.92
Border Collie Club of Vic. (R.O.T.)	Closed	11. 4.92
Warringal O.D.C. Inc.	Closed	12. 4.92
German Shepherd Dog Club of Vic. Inc. (R.O.T.)	Closed	12. 4.92
Red Cliffs District Kennel Club	11. 4.92	25. 4.92
Wallan & District O.D.C. (Associate only)	10. 4.92	25. 4.92
Red Cliffs Ladies Kennel and O.D.C.	11. 4.92	26. 4.92
Croydon & District O.D.C. Inc.	12. 4.92	26. 4.92
Welsh Corgi Club (R.O.T.)	3. 4.92	3. 5.92
Altona Civic O.D.C. Inc.	19. 4.92	3. 5.92
Gordon Setter Club of Vic. Inc. (R.O.T.)	10. 4.92	10. 5.92
Ballarat & District O.D.C. Inc.	26. 4.92	10. 5.92
Golden Retriever Club of Vic. Inc.	10. 4.92	16. 5.92
Ovens Valley Canine Club	2. 5.92	16. 5.92
Wangaratta Kennel and O.D.C.	3. 5.92	17. 5.92
Gordon Setter Club of Vic. Inc. (R.O.T.)	3. 5.92	17. 5.92
Labrador Retriever Club of Vic. (R.O.T.)	24. 4.92	24. 5.92
Keilor O.D. Training Centre Inc.	10. 5.92	24. 5.92
Peninsula O.D.C. Inc.	17. 5.92	31. 5.92

AGILITY

	<u>CLOSED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
<u>GEELONG O.D.C. Inc.</u>	Closed	5. 4.92
Wallan & District O.D.C.	10. 4.92	26. 4.92
Bendigo O.D.C. Inc.	25. 4.92	9. 5.92

TRACKING

	<u>CLOSED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Knox O.D.C.	Closed	5. 4.92
Knox O.D.C.	13. 4.92	9. 5.92
Knox O.D.C.	13. 4.92	10. 5.92
Murray Valley O.D.C.	T.B.A.	23. 5.92
Murray Valley O.D.C.	T.B.A.	24. 5.92

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THE ROTTWEILER CLUB OF VICTORIA

is conducting an  
Eye Health Inspection

on May 20, between 2 and 4.00pm at  
The Geelong Obedience Dog Club.

Any Rottweiler owners wishing to have their dogs tested can do so by booking with Helen Read on 48 4889. All dogs over 12 months will receive an Eye Certificate. Cost \$15.00. This testing is also open to Golden Retrievers.

Specialist: ROBIN STANLEY

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DRAWN ON THE 26-4-92.  
"AUTOGRAPHED"  
"JUMPER"

SPECIAL EFFORT  
WIN GARY  
ABLETT'S  
FOOTY JUMPER!

5

TICKETS ARE 50¢ each or  
5 for \$2.00. Books of 10  
AVAILABLE FROM TOM, CHARLIE or  
DAVID



**OBEDIENCE TRIALS**

Obedience Trials are held in each state and territory of Australia. These trials are open to any person owning a registered or unregistered dog, providing the owner is a member of the Canine Control Council in his/her State.

The function of Obedience Trials is to demonstrate the usefulness of a trained dog in society. A trained dog can be taken anywhere and will obey it's owner and not be a nuisance to other people.

As well as this, Obedience Trials are a wonderful way of making friends with the same interests and provides an absorbing hobby.

Titles can be gained in all sections and on any trial day sashes and trophies are awarded to the winner of each class. Great fellowship is felt by all competitors for each other. The road to success with a trial dog is full of pot holes, so each step on the way to the top is met with acclaim from fellow competitors.

**TITLES TO BE GAINED ARE:**

- C.D. (Companion Dog)
- C.D.X. (Companion Dog Excellent)
- U.D. (Utility Dog)

**CLASSES IN OBEDIENCE TRIALS:**

- ENCOURAGEMENT (not considered official class)
- NOVICE
- OPEN
- UTILITY

<b>ENCOURAGEMENT</b> - the following exercises:	Max. Points
Heel on lead -	30
Stand for examination -	20
Stand stay -	20
One minute sit stay -handler in ring	30
Three minute down stay -handler in ring	30

This class is for inexperienced dogs/handlers - **No Title can be gained from this class.** If you win (come 1st) in this class, you are **NOT ALLOWED** to compete with the same dog in Encouragement again, you must go on to Novice.

**NOVICE**

Max. Points

Heel on lead -	30
Stand for examination -	20
Heel free -	40
Stand stay -	20
Recall -	30
One minute sit stay - handler in ring	30
Three minute down stay - handler in ring	30

Total possible 200 points. C.D. Title is gained by obtaining **THREE PASSES** - 170 points or more, from at least two different judges.

A minimum score of 50% of points must be scored in all exercises to gain a qualifying score.

Once this title is achieved you must then compete in the Open Class.

So newer members this is what you must set your sights on if you wish to have your dog's photograph displayed on our clubroom walls. It is not easy, but the reward is well worth it.

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# Fleabusters

## MOBILE DOG WASH



Specialising in  
HYDROBATHING &  
TURBO DRYING  
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<u>If Print &amp; Paper Supplied:</u>	Full Page: 12 months	\$30.00
<u>MUST BE A4 SIZE:</u>	Full Page: 1 month	\$10.00

All existing advertisements will remain at the old rate until such time as they reach their renewal date.

PROGRESS ON THE PROPOSED COMPANION ANIMAL ACT

Firstly, I must say thank you to you, the members, for the tremendous support the Committee has received with our actions.

The letters you all so eagerly signed, have been delivered, and we have had a favourable response from several politicians.

Thanks to those who folded and licked envelopes.

The next step was the meeting of the sub-committee, consisting of 10 general members and three committee members. After a brain racking but productive meeting, the sub-committee came up with 21 questions and points for Mr Graham Ernst, MLA. They are to be congratulated for their objective approach.

Letters were also sent to all Vets and all Councils and by-laws officers and rangers, inviting them to attend our meeting with Mr Ernst. The Vets would also be affected by some areas of the Bill and the Councils needed to hear our concerns and see what RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP is all about.

The meeting on February 19, 1992 with Mr Ernst was well attended by our members and representatives from Councils and the VCA. Our sub-committee's submissions were read. Two of our 21 points have already been accepted by the Minister. These being (1) A clear qualification of a companion animal business. The (2) concerning dogs on school grounds. The Minister agreed to place a clause stating, dog education programs be permitted on school grounds.

I am not completely satisfied with some of the answers we received such as, the fee structure, and definition and proclamation of a dangerous dog. These two are still points for major concern. Local MLA's have expressed interest in taking up our concerns.

The Victorian Canine Association (VCA) have been supporting us through liaisons with Ron Jensen, VCA Field Officer. A Presidents and Secretaries Conference (from all Obedience Clubs in Victoria) has been arranged for the end of March and the main point for discussion will be the Act and how the obedience clubs can approach it on behalf of the responsible dog owners within each club. A scheme for recognition of obedience trained dogs and a reduction of fees by a certificate for the same, will also be looked at.

I can only hope that the State Government will hear the voice of the RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER and target those who cause us so much embarrassment and concern as dog owners. The COMPANION ANIMAL ACT has put us all in the same basket. Let's hope the responsible dog owner's voice will be heard.

LISA BLACKWELL  
SECRETARY

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TALKING WITH YOUR DOG  
by Mona Lindau-Webb

People communicate with each other by way of language. We use words and sentences to transmit the messages we want to get across. This way of communicating is quite complex and abstract. The words we use function as symbols for the things they stand for. The word "dog", for instance, is a symbol of our four-footed, furry friend.

In communicating with your dog it is easy to forget that he is not a native speaker of English. He does not automatically possess the knowledge of our complex language that we ourselves take so much for granted. Your utterance "Get off that bed right now!" to the puppy on your pillow is just so much gibberish to the puppy. However, if you raise your voice and scream the same utterance angrily, the puppy is quite likely to jump off the bed quickly. Did he understand you because you were louder? No, but he got the message from the tone of your voice.

This is because when we speak, there is more in our utterances than the words and the message itself. There is also information about our current emotional state and attitudes in **HOW** we say an utterance, in our tone of voice. It is this aspect of speech that the dog understands well. The reason for this is that there are strong similarities between the tones of voice that people and dogs (and many other animals) use for expressing the same emotions and moods (Morton 1977).

The connection between certain tones of voice and emotions seems to be wired into the brain from the start and not learned. Awareness of all the similarities between man and dog can be a great help in training your dog.

Anger and aggressiveness are vocalized as harsh, loud, low-pitched noises. The dog's aggressive or threatening growl is acoustically a loud noise at relatively low pitch. His threatening bark is noisier and darker in quality than other barks. My older dominant Bullmastiff tells the younger one to stay off her toys by the use of a single such threatening bark, always resulting in the younger one ambling off. A human angry voice is also loud and harsh. In training, when you really want to correct or punish your dog, stare at him and say one angry, harsh loud "NO". Do not go on and on scolding. One "threatbark" from you should have a much deeper affect on the dog.

At the opposite end of the emotional spectrum, submission, fear, insecurity, etc. are expressed by more tonal sounds, always at a high pitch. The dog's yelp of fear is acoustically a high pitched short tone. A human voice often cracks into high pitch when the speaker feels fear or pain. I teach puppies to playbite on me softer than on their mates by yelping at their too-hard bites. They learn very quickly.

Aggression and fear are extreme moods. In between there are many different emotional states and moods, also with universally associated voice qualities. Questions, uncertainty, hesitation are for example often signalled by a high rising pitch in languages of the world. Dogs seem to do the same thing. I have several recordings of my dogs barking very assertively for food; but when I did not give them any, the series of barks ended with one single bark on a higher pitch. When their demands resulted in no reaction from me at all, they obviously got unsure of themselves, and this is manifested in their vocalizations in the same way as people do. When we teach a dog a command, like "SIT!", we do it by showing the dog what to do as we repeat the word. As you repeat it, make sure to use a calm, assertive tone of voice. Do not raise your tone at the end like in "Sit?". This will sound uncertain to the dog and it will make him unsure of himself and what you want.

Cont...

TALKING WITH YOUR DOG (Cont...2)

Praise your dog in a fairly highpitched sing-song tone of voice. The dog will readily interpret this as your happy voice. It is quite effective in training to use this happy voice for praise, and a deeper harsher voice for correcting. Make it easier for the dog by exaggerating the difference.

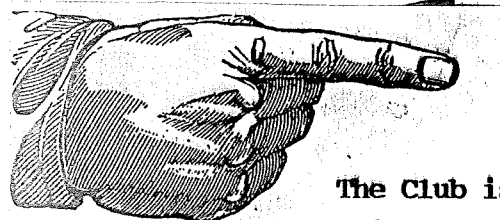
Another important point in talking to your dog is not to nag. Did you ever hear dogs nagging each other? Do not even nag with your praise. Do praise, as soon as you get a correct performance, but do not go on and on. Just like people, the dog will become deaf to your praise if there is too much of it. Give him time to feel he deserves the praise.

Apart from these aspects of the language and vocalizations, there are many other noises that you have in common with your dog. You burp, snore, grunt, croon, and sigh in the same way. You may have learned to control some of this out of politeness, but the Bullmastiff has surely not. There is no problem at all interpreting your dog's mood when he settles down with a contented sigh and a satisfied croon, or when his 120 pound body is racked by shuddering sighs of disappointment, or when the miffed Bullmastiff turns his back to you with a loud sigh and lots of grunts. Equally, the dog has no problem interpreting your equivalent sighs and grunts. When you get annoyed with your dog next time, try a deep sigh followed by "mutter, mutter, mutter". You will see the dog understands you perfectly.

Learn to listen to your dog, and make use of your common language in training. You will never get bored!

Reference: Morton, E.W., 1977 "On the occurrence and significance of motivational-structural rules in some bird and mammal sounds". American Naturalist 111: 855-869. (Reprinted from the Rottweiler Club of Queensland Newsletter.)

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COMPETITION

The Club is running a double competition with a separate prize of a \$25.00 gift voucher redeemable at our club shop for each segment.

COMPETITION (a): Design a cover for our Newsletter. (Must be fully original work. Remember copyright laws apply to graphic arts as well.)

COMPETITION (b): What's In a Name? What do you think we should call our Newsletter?

All entries to be in to the Secretary before May 3. (Late entries not accepted.)

Judging will be by a panel of committee members, and the Judges decisions will be final.

Winners announced in the MAY Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

# Invitation

HAPPY EASTER

To : Members + friends

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 1992

Time: 12.00 noon onwards.

Place: "BBQ area"  
club grounds

If you're not going away for Easter and feel like joining some fellow members. Then come on down to the club on Good Friday for our FISH BBQ. (or your choice)

B.Y.O. everything

After lunch for the energetic ones, there will be a cricket match.

Look forward to seeing you at the B.B.Q.

Thanks  
Leonie - social secretary.

CERTIFICATE PASSES.....

BEGINNER'S OBEDIENCE

Lee Bean & Harlev  
 Paul Dobson & Geoffrev  
 Paul Roadlev & Missv  
 Debbie & Brendan Willis & Teka  
 Jan & Hennv DeJona & Mistv  
 Warwick Plunkett & Nudne  
 David Wilson & Tiersa  
 Tara McLeod & Jessie  
 Geoff Holdsworth & Rhanni  
 Iajos Danka & Rusty  
 Tracey Blackett & Max

Lynn Connors-Southall & Med  
 John McLennan & Hermie  
 Aileen Nelson & Abbv  
 Lothar & Kavlin Muschella & Steffie  
 Debbie Mvers & Tootsie  
 Doreen Brollks & Shep  
 Bert Bartels & Sharna  
 Paula Judd & Harley  
 Anne-Maree Causon & Bear  
 Paul Williamson & Abby

These folk now enter CLASS 2.

BASIC OBEDIENCE

Alan Anstis & Rocky  
 Paul Roadley & Missy  
 Paul & Margaret Metcalf & Bree

Cynthia Truswell & Benson  
 Ron Matthews & Sam  
 Bronco Ivec & Jessica

These folk now enter CLASS 3.

Congratulations to ALL those people for work well done!

PLEASE NOTE:

SPECIAL TESTING DAYS

For administration purposes, the Training Supervisor has set dates for testing for ALL Certificates. These will be the ONLY days dogs will be tested for these certificates and subsequent Class promotions.

THEY ARE:

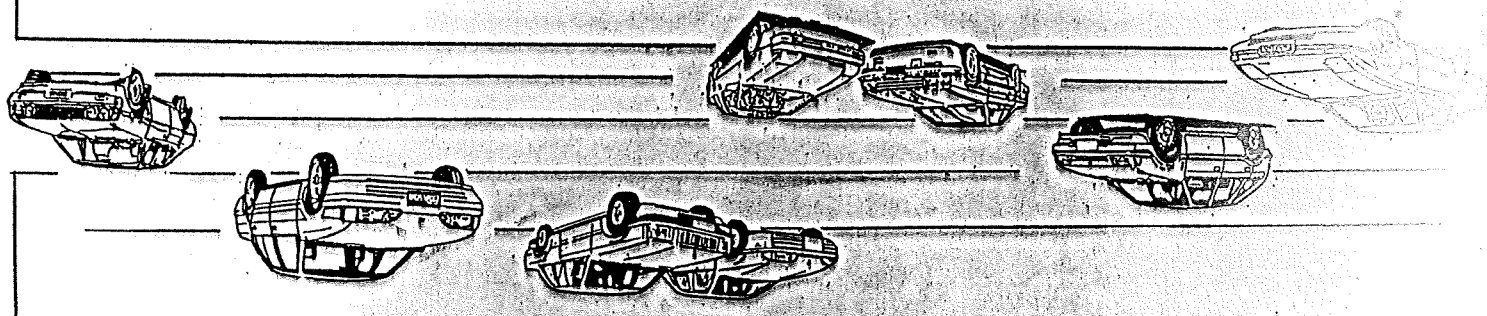
- SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 1992
- SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 1992
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 1992
- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1992
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1992

The testing days will be run on a similar line to our FUN DAYS. Details are still to be finalized. Watch for further details on the Notice Board on the verandah, and LISTEN to ANNOUNCEMENTS.

TO PROGRESS FROM CLASS 3 DOGS/BITCHES NEED TO HAVE OBTAINED THEIR C.D. OR G.D. TITLES (IN OTHER WORDS BE ELIGIBLE TO HAVE THEIR PHOTOGRAPH ON THE CLUB WALL).

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PROPRIETERS, RICHARD & LEANNE BARTOLO

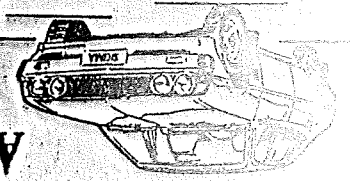
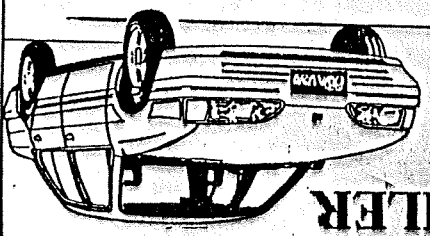
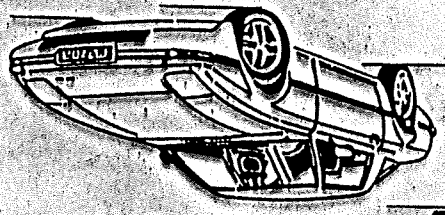
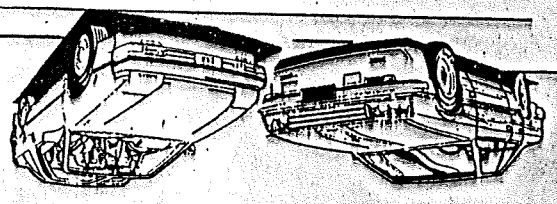
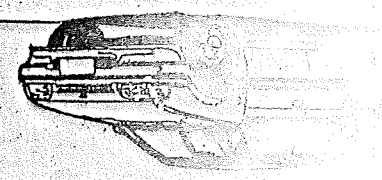
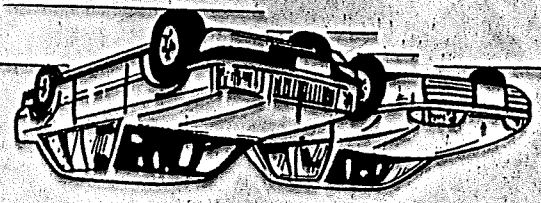
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### TITBIT CORNER

The canine nose has reached greater heights still as will be evidenced at Sydney and Brisbane airports. Three Beagles will be used for a three month trial period to detect illegal imports such as cheeses, live birds and plants.

Straight from the horses's mouth - David Weston is forwarding his manuscript to the printer in July for a new book on dog behavioural problems. He was hoping to do a segment on Dobermanns from day one through to eyes opening and subsequent follow through, but so far no-one has had the necessary types of photographs his publisher requires for this segment.

For the newer members, we had David down here last year demonstrating his training techniques and we have a copy of his first book in our library which gives a different perspective on training.

### OUT OF THE PAST 25 Years Ago - 1967

One of Australia's most valuable German Shepherd dogs was burnt to death in a fire at Norlane late on Wednesday night.

The dog "Houssaie Sweet Bambi", died when fire broke out behind the home of Mr and Mrs K.O. Heyne, of Kookaburra Court.

Mr and Mrs Heyne, who were visiting friends for an hour, returned home to find their prize possession and six of her pups destroyed by the blaze.

The fire was attended by the Norlane Fire Brigade, but all efforts to save the dog were without success.

Sub-station officer Mr M. O'Brien, yesterday said when he arrived at the home "The whole kennels were ablaze.". "We had no hope of saving the dogs", he said. "They were probably dead when we got there."

(Karl Heyne was a Past President and is a life member of the Club.)  
(Reprinted with kind permission of The Geelong Advertiser.)

### CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

A power failure during the night caused our early bird Sunday morning instructor to sleep in.

Galvanizing into action, she speeded up the usual a.m. routine.

Medications for self and dog were set in neat piles on the kitchen bench and, as she poured a glass of water the telephone rang. Quickly gulping hers down she drowned them with the water and answered the call.

On returning to medicate pooch she made the startling discovery that only hers remained on the bench.

What a dilemma - dog tablets were to strengthen heart beat and flush lungs; hers to slow down hear beat!

Attempts to dislodge tablets proved fruitless. Perhaps a call to Casualty at Geelong Hospital?

A very sleep voice answered the call. Details re name of medications, quantity, strength etc. were given. Then after a lengthy silence the sleepy medico responded.

"No madam, I think you will be okay because the dose is only for a small dog. However, if you notice any unusual symptoms, notify a doctor immediately."

"Doctor, what symptoms will I look for?" our instructor replied.

"Well just the usual ones madam," responded the joker, "such as barking, peeing on trees or biting the postman!".

(THIS IS YOUR LIFE PHYL!)

Cont...d

TITBIT CORNER (Cont...2/)

Two of our members shone through at BUMPA DAY AT THE PARK with Helen Read and her dog SABU appearing in the photographs in ON LEAD/OFF LEAD coverage of this day.

Well done!

Elaine

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TRAINING SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

I welcome all members new and not so new, to Sunday training sessions. I hope that the changeover from Wednesday night's to Sunday morning was not too inconvenient. For those who had trouble finding their classes, I apologize. However, I would like to remind you that all Instructors and Committee give their valuable time and knowledge voluntarily.

I believe it is the responsibility of all members to learn their Instructor's name, the training times and dates of trials held at our Club. Plus remember that on public holidays, there is no training on a holiday weekend.

On April 26 the Club will conduct a Promotion Day for all Class One's and Class Two's. A pass on the day will move each handler and their dog up to the next class.

Other Promotion Days are set to be held throughout the year. The dates are:

June 14; August 16; October 18 and November 29.

In closing I thank all the Instructors for their help, co-operation and dedication to training. I believe it is appreciated by all Club members.

COLIN HUMPHREYS  
TRAINING SUPERVISOR

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*The handler who thinks he knows it all has merely stopped thinking.*

*If dogs could talk perhaps we would find it just as hard to get along with them as we do with people.*

\*\*\*\*\*

ARE YOU A LIBRARY MEMBER? Why not? For a \$1.00 you too could learn these pearls of wisdom and many more, AND LEARN A LOT ABOUT YOUR DOG. Our Library has a comprehensive range of books dealing with all aspects of dog training, behaviour, breed traits and of course the ever popular doggie fiction stories. Remember that the man who writes fiction has to know a lot about his subject first to make it plausible.

Enquire at the Secretary's office re becoming a member.

\*\*\*\*\*

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CONTACT MARIA ELLIOTT

**PHONE 435340**

NOT TODAY

By Pam McClintock

He watches me with large brown eyes,  
Something in them is both soft and wise,  
And I look back at him, and remember;  
Other days, of boundless energy,  
Hours of 'chase and stick',  
And then asking to do it again.  
He's always been a friend,  
Never demanding, forever loyal.

He's older now, some say he's useless,  
Why keep him? He's only in the way,  
Make way for younger stock they say.  
Memories flood into my mind.  
The cheers and tears of joy,  
He's a champion, you know,  
This great, big, wonderful boy.

His step falters occasionally now,  
And I'm forced to think.  
How will it be,  
When he's no longer here with me.  
And it's hard to hold back a tear.

He moves closer to me now,  
And lifts one huge paw.  
Not for a shake, but to say,  
Dear friend, I'll be with you till the end.

I look into the yard and watch his son,  
And though my old boy's time is done.  
There is his legacy,  
A fine young dog, magnificent in every way.  
So much like his father, surely another champion.  
It takes my breath away to see how much alike they are,  
So often I've compared them from afar.  
A dream has come true, and it is here at my feet,  
And there at the gate, waiting for a treat.

I think of the other sons and daughters,  
Fine animals, all of them,  
A credit to their dad,  
And I am no longer sad.

This proud and dignified old dog holds our hearts,  
Age has not lessened his splendour.  
And when I hear that great, deep bark, protecting,  
I think, not today,  
Will I consider time without him.  
Perhaps tomorrow, but for now,  
He is here. And I am grateful.

(Reprinted from the Rottweiler Club of Queensland Newsletter.)

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### THE SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

The **Shetland Sheepdog** or "**Sheltie**" as he is affectionately known, originates from the Shetland Islands where he was used by the crofters as a sheepdog and guardian of the farm.

Today he makes an ideal family pet, being equally happy in a suburban backyard or running free in open spaces. Often referred to as a miniature Collie, the **Shetland Sheepdog** certainly has the overall appearance of the Scotch Collie; however, he is a breed all of his own and does possess some minor distinguishing features apart from the obvious size difference.

The **Sheltie's** glamorous coat which requires surprisingly little attention, together with his sweet expression, make him a dog of great beauty.

He ranges in colour from golden sable to dark mahogany, tri-colour and blue merle, all with varying amounts of white markings. It can be said no two **Shelties** ever look the same, all of which adds individuality to the dog.

In size he stands around 14 to 15 inches at the shoulder (ideal height for dogs 14½; bitches 14"), his head being about level with your knee, making him sufficiently small to take anywhere without intrusion, liking nothing better than riding in the family car. However, do not be fooled. Although rather a small dog, the **Sheltie** is not fragile. When feed was in short supply on the farms, the original Shetlands were ferried onto small outlying islands with a flock of sheep and left there for long periods to guard the flock and fend for themselves. Any animal having to rough it as did these dogs would certainly have to be hardy to survive.

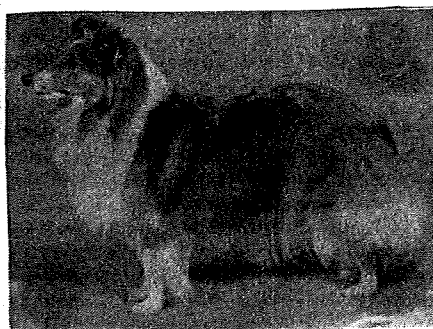
When brought back to the farms after such isolation, these dogs would thrive on attention and affection. It is probably this part of their history which makes them so devoted to their owners, but suspicious of intruders and intent on protecting the family.

Aside from the many attributes which make him an ideal family pet, the **Shetland Sheepdog** has proved a very popular show dog and is frequently to be seen taking top honours amongst the best of all breeds in both overseas and Australian show rings.

He has also proved his worth in obedience competition, where his intelligence and eagerness to please have placed him amongst the best.

Few **Shelties** are used today for their original intent as Sheepdogs, but those people who have worked them vouch for their incredible stamina and instinctive ability to herd. First introduced into Australia in 1935, the future of the **Shetland Sheepdog** was ensured by a number of very dedicated breeders whose work is now carried on and supported by the various breed clubs around the country.

(Information obtained from a 'Free Information Brochure' published by The Shetland Sheepdog Club of Victoria, Inc.)

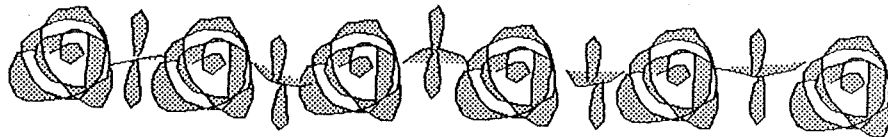


## **K9 PORTRAITS**

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*Pictures are drawn in pastels and look very authentic with the subject's individual personality coming through. Each one is different in its own way.*

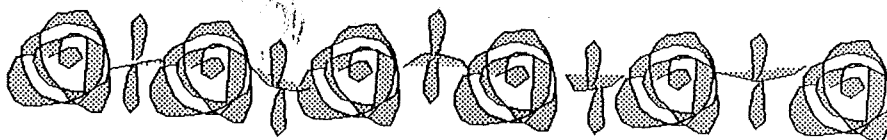
*All you need to supply is a good photo which has captured the right light mood and personality.*



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(unframed)**

**\$75.00  
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**Artist : Mary Feldman (Member of the GODC)**

**Please phone me on 531030  
or see Wayne Feldman (Instructor) during  
training hours.**