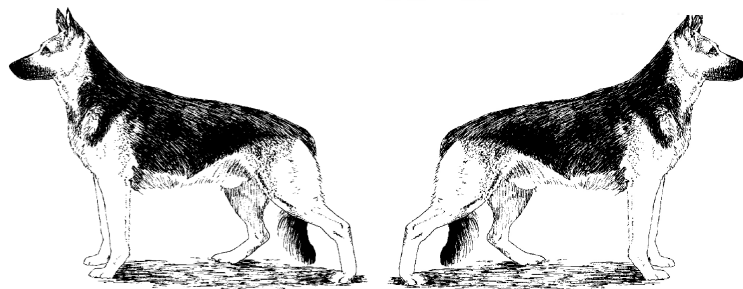
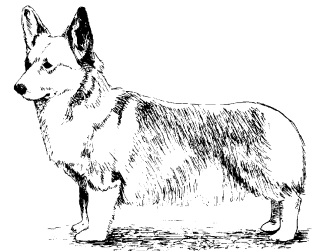
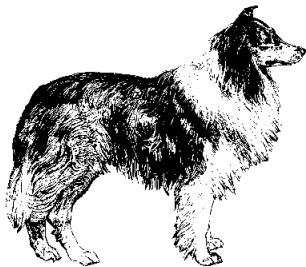
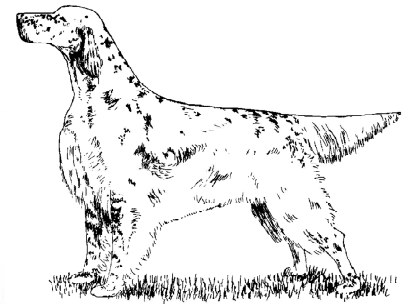
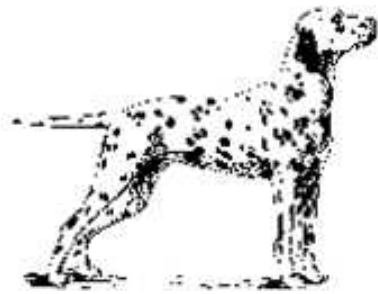


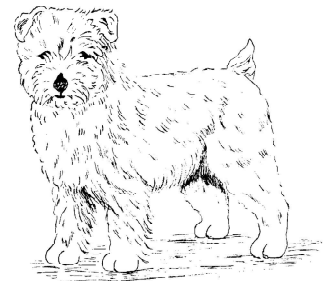
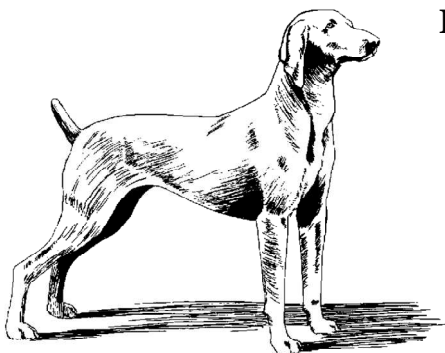
# FAITHFULLY YOURS



**ESTABLISHED 1954**

**Incorporation No A5419H**

**ABN 79 874 613 605**



**Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc**  
**Breakwater Road, Belmont Common**  
**GEELONG VIC 3220**  
**Phone: 5243 4555**

**November 2012**  
**Issue No**  
**237**

# GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

**Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann**

**Office Bearers for 2012/2013**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Colin Humphreys	52 822 683	Public Officer
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</b>	Stephen Eldridge	0407512979	Training
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</b>	Vacant		Administration
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Christine Jagtenberg	0438 414 917	
<b>TREASURER</b>	Kathy Taylor	52 411 886	Property Officer
<b>TRIAL SECRETARY</b>	Pam Convery	52 414 786	
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	Vacant		Canteen Manager
	Roland Linford		Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	0448415401	Grounds Manager
	John Taylor	52 411 886	Hall Manager
	Vacant		Social
			Secretary/Publicity Officer
	Alex Shackleton		Shop Manager
<b>NON-COMMITTEE</b>	Desma Dickeson		Training Supervisor
	Christine Jagtenberg	0438 414 917	Membership Officer
	Alex Shackleton		Minutes Officer
	Robyn Youl		Librarian
	Stephen Eldridge		Assistant Librarian
	Pam Convery		Newsletter Editor
	Brendan Jagtenberg	0410 261 393	Webmaster

*The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All Committee and Sub-Committee reports bear the name of the respective Club Officers. The Editor and/or Committee reserves the right to correct, alter, re-arrange or refuse, without prejudice, any copy submitted for publication.*

Weekday Office Hours:- Monday, 3.00pm to 7.00pm

All correspondence should be addressed to:-

**THE SECRETARY  
PO BOX 186  
GEELONG VIC 3220**

If you would like to contribute articles etc. for publication in “Faithfully Yours”, please forward them to The Editor, c/- the above address, hand in at the Office or email to [Pam Convery at janelle.convery@bigpond.com](mailto:janelle.convery@bigpond.com)

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

**Club website – [www.godc.org.au](http://www.godc.org.au)**



## CLUB CALENDAR

### November

Sunday	4 November	Normal training. Newsletter available
Sunday	11 November	Normal Training. <b><u>End of Year Awards closing date</u></b>
Thursday	15 November	Newsletter closes for articles, report, etc
Sunday	18 November	Normal training.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>19 November</b>	<b>Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm</b>
Sunday	25 November	Normal training.

### December

Sunday	2 December	Normal training
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4 December</b>	<b>General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised</b>
Sunday	9 December	Normal training
Sunday	16 December	Last day of training for 2012. Fun Day including presentations.
Monday	17 December	Office closes

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## CLUB INSTRUCTORS

<i>Vice President (Training)</i>	Stephen Eldridge
<i>Training Supervisor</i>	Desma Dickeson
<i>Assistant Training Supervisors</i>	Kim Ciezarek

### Obedience

Colin Humphreys	Val Moeller	Wendy Ganly
John Shields	Kim Ciezarek	Kath Devlin
Desma Dickeson	David Gravalin	Christine Jagtenberg
Victor Douglas	Tony Stewart	Heather Miller

### Agility

Trish Gavaghan	Glenys Murray	Alex Shackleton
Bev Petrass	Vanessa Bridges	
Susan Axe	Carole Sparks	

### Rally O

Wendy Ganly

### Flyball

Sally Hunt



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What pushing your luck looks like



## REPORTS

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

### President's Report

Hi and welcome to all new Members.

Well another Annual General Meeting has been held and most positions have been filled. We still need a Second Vice President and a Trial Secretary.

I thank the outgoing Committee for their hard work and dedication over the past year and wish the new Committee every success in the year ahead.

**Colin Humphreys - President**

### A REMINDER TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS

We need your help. This Club survives only by its Members volunteering their time to do all the necessary work to keep the Club running smoothly. This not only includes organizing your training sessions it includes keeping equipment organized and in good repair, maintaining the grounds, running the Canteen, and keeping the Clubhouse clean and well maintained. At present the band of helpers is getting smaller and there are only a few people contributing a lot of their valuable time for the benefit of many. In other words we need your help to keep going. All Members need to contribute in some way. A couple of hours each month would be a great contribution and very much appreciated. Please put your name on the Volunteer list and advise when you are available to assist and what you can do to help. See Christine or Kathy in the office Sundays or give us a call during Office hours on Mondays.

**Kathleen Taylor - Treasurer**

### Library Update:

#### **LIBRARIES UNLEASHED: DESTRUCTIVE DIGGING**

An overview of websites on Destructive Digging actually gives one little insight as to how to absolutely prevent the canine archeologist from turning the backyard into a moonscape. Doggy Day Care is offered as one solution to the problem. Recently, if you can afford it, this is becoming increasingly available to concerned or harassed dog owners. Just for interest Google: Dog Day Care Victoria Australia. Selecting an appropriate centre for your companion is another issue again. Confining the dog to the house in your absence - well it does solve the problem of mining in the yard. What happens in the house does not bear thinking about for the larger breeds. Dogs in Hong Kong spend their entire lives in apartments and appear to thrive. BUT Hong Kong dogs have the services of a resident maid or amah to exercise and supervise while the owners are at work.

Confining the dog to a run or pen specifically built for the purpose is a really viable solution if you have the space and skills to be able to implement the concept. Dog Runs

## REPORTS      REPORTS      REPORTS      REPORTS

can also be purchased in kit form. You can even design an outdoor canine space similar to those found in modern zoos for your dog to enjoy in your absence.

Chaining your dog to a fixed point will encourage barking and neurotic behaviours such as compulsive circling at the end of the tether. The neck will become hairless with friction and the dog's gait will be distorted through constant pulling and lunging. A neighbour chained his dog within reach of the fence line - while he was at work it scrabbled over the palings and strangled - slowly. The image that stayed with him was the blue tongue protruding between the jaws. A running chain line may be an option - safety and sanity are still issues.

The web sites selected take the problem seriously and are concerned that you identify what are the causes of your dog's digging.

Take the solutions offered on board and fine tune and fiddle until you are on the way to a workable, non violent approach to the problem. Dogs enjoy digging. They are reinforced by an extremely pleasurable activity. The chasms feel good to construct, are comfortable to lie in, and may even create exciting exits under boundary fences. If you shriek, yell and

resort to violence when confronted by the day's activity all you are teaching your dog is that you are dangerous and unpredictable when you return after an absence. The dog is not apologising for the damage - the dog quite justifiably thinks you have gone mad and is trying to appease a lunatic.

\*Animal Behaviour Network [2011]

Destructive Digging

Suggests providing a doggy sandpit as a viable alternative.

[www.animalbehavior.net/LIBRARY/Canine/PPM/DogDestructiveDigging.htm](http://www.animalbehavior.net/LIBRARY/Canine/PPM/DogDestructiveDigging.htm)

\*Canine Concepts [2008]

Excellent background information as to why dogs feel impelled to dig.

Suggests a sandpit to encourage 'approved' digging.

[www.canineconcepts.co.uk/item--How-to-stop-destructive-dog-digging--destructive-dog-digging---guides](http://www.canineconcepts.co.uk/item--How-to-stop-destructive-dog-digging--destructive-dog-digging---guides)

\*Dog Star Daily. [2011]

Dunbar, Dr. Ian: Digging.

An excellent and informative overview of the problem.

[www.dogstardaily.com/training/digging](http://www.dogstardaily.com/training/digging)

## REPORTS      REPORTS      REPORTS      REPORTS

\*Dogtime - Find your wag. [2011]

Destructive chewing and digging

Outlines the causes and suggests ways to treat the problem

<http://dogtime.com/chewing-digging-behavior.html>

\*Positive Fun Dog Training [2011]

Digging - Feb.-13-2011

Check out the photo of the sandpit for construction ideas

<http://positivefuntraining.blogspot.com/2011/02/digging.html>

\*Yahoo! Answers [2011]

How to prevent dogs digging in the yard. [28/Aug/2008]

An extremely informative article. Presents a range of possible causes and solutions to experiment with. Does not promise a 'quick fix'.

<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20060830234752AAJqrsC>

A K9 Moonscaper is a stress factor you can well do without. Containment seems over all to be the best solution. Summer is high activity time for these mobile mouths. If you leave it lying around it will be devoured. Hoses, hose fittings, the hoses on the gas tank for the barbeque. Moist soil invites digging - it smells great and quickly becomes a most attractive canyon. Along fence lines invites under the fence and away.

Managing stress is part of helping YOU adjust to the problem. Angry owner EQUALS cringing canine. Obviously this is a fairly recent problem for you - a first time dog, a new puppy, a replacement for a departed pal. Many do grow out of it.

One of the most zany tactics I have ever heard was practised by very old friend who has long since crossed the Rainbow bridge to be re-united with all her landscape artists. She did Tai Chi in the midst of chaos. She visited us one day to show us her new brand new Ford Station Wagon. She was still waiting for the wire partition to go across the back seat to enclose the dogs behind it.

By the time we got to the kerb to admire her new vehicle the dogs had scrambled over the back seat and were demolishing the dash board. They had already ripped the interior panels off the back doors. How I admired that woman! Tai Chi on the nature strip with both dogs on leads.

"No-body else to blame but myself!"

**Robyn Youl -Librarian**



## A Dog's Purpose: from a 6-year-old.



Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's Death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why." Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. It has changed the way I try and live. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The Six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

Remember, if a dog was the teacher you would learn things like:

- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them;
- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride;
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure Ecstasy;
- Take naps;
- Stretch before rising;
- Run, romp, and play daily;
- Thrive on attention and let people touch you;
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do;
- On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass;
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree;
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body;
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk;
- Be loyal;
- Never pretend to be something you're not;
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it;
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently;

There comes a time in life, when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it. You surround yourself with people who make you laugh, forget the bad, and focus on the good. So, love the people who treat you right. Think good thoughts for the ones who don't. Life is too short to be anything but happy.

Falling down is part of LIFE...Getting back up is LIVING...

## TRIAL RESULTS

### NADAC Trial – Ballarat

#### Saturday

S Axe	Hector	Open Chances	Q	
		Open Regular 2	Q	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Open Regular 1		2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Elite Jumpers		2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Open Touch n Go		2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Open Weavers		4 <sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday

S Axe	Hector	Open Chances	Q	
		Elite Jumpers	Q	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Open Regular 2	Q	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Open Weavers	Q	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Open Regular 1		1 <sup>st</sup>
		Open Touch n Go		2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Open Highest in Trial		

### NADAC Trial Bellarine Dog Activities Group

S Axe	Hector	Elite Changes	Q	
		Elite Regular	Q	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Elite Jumpers 2	Q	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Elite Jumpers 1		2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Open Hoopers		1 <sup>st</sup>
		Open Weavers		3 <sup>rd</sup>



Hi folks,

Yours truly (Tony Knight) reporting live from Down Under once more. I've been doing more radio segments this week - in Perth and in Melbourne - which have been really well received.

I have recently noticed a Facebook campaign that asks for owners of dogs who might become aggressive to wear a yellow ribbon on their leash to notify people not to approach them. This is a great idea and I am going to do the same with my dogs. Before anyone thinks that I

have aggressive dogs (if you met Pru & Kez you would also be confused by this notion) let me explain;

People who train guide dogs often find their training sessions are interrupted by people insisting on coming up and fussing the cute doggie, even if they are wearing highly visible signs asking for the dogs to be left alone. However if people see a dog wearing a muzzle they leave them alone. I have said before that if Guide Dogs wore muzzles they would work as a really good Human Repellent, but I prefer the idea of a little yellow ribbon.

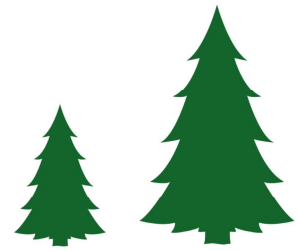
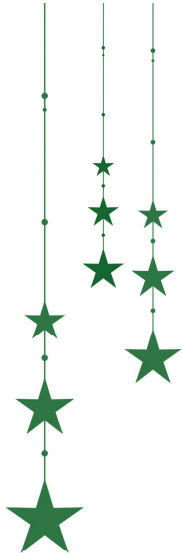
Remember that over 95% of dog bites occur because people invade a dog's personal space without permission. This often happens with the family dog too. Dogs have rules about personal space i.e. respect it! Otherwise the offender might get told off. If someone goes up to a cat and gets scratched, they don't claim that the cat is a vicious creature that cannot be trusted and should be killed. It is a good idea to give dogs that same respect, don't you think?

Speaking of yellow ribbons... God Bless the 70s!

ALTOGETHER NOW...



# Santa Photos



Geelong Obedience Dog Club



Sunday 18th - November

10am to 12.30pm

## Santa Photos Prices

5X7 photo	\$20.00
8x10 photo	\$40.00
8X12 photo	\$45.00

Key ring	\$15.00
1 Fridge Magnet	\$15.00

Xmas Flat cards X3	\$12.00
(12 per pack)	\$45.00

### Calendars

A4 Laminated	\$15.00
A4 12 page	\$25.00
A3 Laminated	\$25.00

### Small Package - \$45

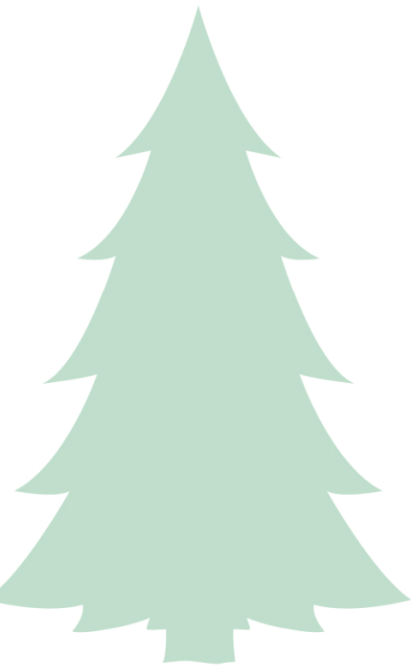
2 x 5x7 prints  
1 x Key ring or Fridge magnet & Wallet print

### Medium Package - \$65

1 x 8x10 prints  
2 x 5x7 prints  
1 x Key ring or Fridge magnet & Wallet print

### Large Package - \$95

1 x 8x10 print  
3 x 5x7 prints  
1 x Key ring or Fridge magnet & Wallet print  
Xmas cards X 12



## GAWS Christmas collection

Each year the Club asks Members to take part in an Animal Welfare Christmas Collection



©funmunch.com

Next time you are out shopping add an extra tin of dog or cat food or packet of dry food to your shopping trolley to help feed the four-legged friends who aren't as lucky as ours.

There will be boxes set up in the Clubrooms for your contribution



# Seizures in Dogs

(I have included this article as our young Golden Retriever “Rookie” 5 years of age, had a seizure recently and I suddenly realized our little I knew about it. It was a first time experience for us but after speaking to Vets it is not an uncommon occurrence. There are several great websites with further information. Pam)

## Introduction

Seizures are caused by abnormal electrical impulses in the cortex of the brain. These impulses cause a combination of uncontrollable, involuntary and excessive or reduced muscle activities. There are a number of different causes of seizures in domestic dogs. However, the symptoms are fairly classic and easily recognizable.

## Symptoms of Seizures in Dogs

Seizures tend to be transient and to start and stop abruptly. Most generalized seizures (also called “grand mal” seizures) start with a period of altered behavior, called the “aura.” During this period, owners may notice one or more of the following signs:

- Far-away look in the eyes
- Agitation
- Nervousness
- Restlessness
- Vocalization
- Unusual clinginess; attention-seeking behavior, or seeking of seclusion
- Confusion

The actual seizure event normally lasts for about two minutes or less and is characterized by one or more of the following symptoms:

- Weakness
- Loss of awareness of the immediate environment
- Trembling
- Collapse
- Rigid extension of the extremities
- Loss of consciousness
- Cessation of breathing (for roughly 10 to 30 seconds)
- Rhythmic jerking or paddling of the legs while lying down (resembles running)
- Muscle twitching (especially facial muscles)
- Teeth chomping; chewing
- Temporary blindness
- Vomiting (emesis)
- Excessive salivation (ptyalism; drooling)
- Inappropriate urination
- Inappropriate defecation

Generalized seizure episodes can last from seconds to minutes. In the time immediately following a seizure (called the post-ictal period), the dog begins to recover. She may still experience temporary blindness, confusion, sleepiness, disorientation and post-seizure convulsions during this

# Seizures in Dogs

period, which typically lasts for about an hour but can last for several days. Dogs with primary epilepsy usually have recurrent seizures that become increasingly frequent over time. Dogs can also have focal or localized seizures, which only affect a limited part of their bodies. These are usually caused by a brain tumor, brain abscess or other focal brain lesion.

## **Dogs at Increased Risk**

Seizures can occur in dogs of any age, sex or breed. Primary seizures, called epilepsy, are most common in dogs between the ages of 6 months and 5 years. Older dogs tend to suffer seizures caused by brain tumors, while younger dogs are predisposed to seizures from ingestion of toxins, metabolic disorders or conformational abnormalities. Breeds that have been reported to have a genetic predisposition to epilepsy include the Beagle, Belgian Tervuren, Dachshund, Keeshond and German Shepherd. Other breeds with an unusually high incidence of epileptic disorders, but without an established hereditary cause, include the Collie, Cocker Spaniel, Labrador Retriever, Golden Retriever, Irish Setter, Miniature Schnauzer, Siberian Husky, St. Bernard, Poodle and Wire Fox Terrier. Mixed-breed dogs can suffer from seizure disorders, as well.

SOURCE: PETWAVE

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## **Dogs will be dogs**

**Dogs behave as they want to, and therein lies the rub**

### Introduction

There is nothing like a puppy

About six million puppies are born each year, and the vast majority find their way into a home. Each puppy is a new beginning for a family or an individual owner, a joy to behold and love and teach.

A puppy is a genetic package loaded with behaviour traits that took thousands of years to refine. Like a human baby, he learns his limits and his powers as he grows; unlike a human baby, he explores his environment and learns his lessons at a more primitive level – with tooth and paw – that he cannot outgrow. A puppy can become a well-mannered dog, but he can never learn to say please and thank you, to clean up his room, or to build a tower of blocks. A puppy is limited by his canine heritage, but his limitations can be channelled through training and accommodated by owners who understand why he does what he does.



### **Social interaction**

Dogs are social animals. They need the company of other beings in order to develop to their full potential. Man brought dogs into his family circle, and dogs have come to need the company of man to survive.

Dog behaviour is governed by hunting style, digestive system, and reproductive needs and is geared towards participation in a social group. Some dog fanciers describe this behaviour in terms used by

### **Dogs will be dogs (continued)**

biologists to explain wolf interactions – they toss around terms such as “pack dynamics” and “dominance hierarchy” to explain how dogs see the world.

Some pet owners describe dog behaviour in terms of human conduct and emotions. They say that Fluffy acts out of love or concern, that Rascal soiled the rug out of spite, that Ranger barks at the mailman because he hates the mailman, or that Mickey cringes because he is afraid of being smacked.

It doesn't matter if owners consider their dogs as wolf cousins or furry children if the relationship is smooth and the adaptations made as a matter of course, but if Fido's natural tendencies are unacceptable in any way, remedies depend on understanding how and why the behaviour exists so that it can be modified.



### **Adaptations**

Dogs are better at adapting than owners are - within limits, they can modify their behaviour for good or ill to cope with human idiosyncrasies while still meeting their own need for social acceptance. Doggy adaptations that result in inappropriate expression of natural behaviour can block or tear the human-animal bond if owners view those adaptations in human terms. For example, dogs naturally explore with their mouths and chew to satisfy a biological need, but chewing on family body parts and possessions is unacceptable. Acknowledging that a pup is following the genetic behaviour blueprint common to all dogs is more conducive to developing a solution than falling into the all-too-human trap of labelling her as spiteful, angry, mean, or stupid.

Dogs are predators - they have the eyes, teeth, digestive systems, feet, ears, and structure of predators. Even though pet dogs no longer hunt their dinner, they are still capable of predatory behaviour towards wild critters, other pets, and even babies and small children. Owners who understand that predation is natural for dogs can prevent problems by supervising dogs with other pets and children, at least until they understand the attitudes and behaviour of each particular dog in each circumstance.



Dogs are basically clean animals - although they do enjoy a romp or roll in some pretty disgusting dead stuff or a swim in a fetid pond on occasion. Most dogs are relatively easy to housetrain because they learn quickly not to soil their living space. Dogs that have trouble with housetraining may have already adapted to living in dirt because they have nowhere else to urinate or defecate except their crates or cages.

Dogs like to be busy - although they sleep most of the day, dogs enjoy activity with their families. Long walks, games, tricks, and training for competition in agility, obedience, tracking, herding, lure coursing, go-to-ground and other events keep a dog's mind and body in good shape. Dogs that don't get this stimulation will make up their own games and events such as “ha, ha, you can't catch me,” “I can leap the fence in a single bound,” “the back yard looks much better with all these holes,” or “wanna bet I can't reach the chicken you're thawing for dinner?”

### **Dogs will be dogs (continued)**

Dogs dig - they dig to find moles and mice and rabbits that tunnel or nest underground. They dig to make a nice cool sleeping spot in summer, to escape from the yard for a neighbourhood foray, or to mimic owners who work in the garden. Some owners give dogs their own digging places so the family pooch can indulge his bent for excavation without uprooting the entire yard or garden.

Dogs are territorial - we like this adaptation when Fido barks to warn us of approaching strangers, but really hate it when he goes overboard with a frenzy of noise. (The neighbours hate it too!) Unfortunately, with people living close together in cities and suburbs, this adaptation is often difficult to correct. No-bark collars (both electronic and herbal) work in many cases, but the instinct is strong and the dogs may need frequent reinforcement of the lesson. (Some breeds of dogs – including Collies, Shetland Sheepdogs, some terriers, and Norwegian Elkhounds, for example – tend to bark more than others, so potential buyers should take this characteristic into consideration when looking for a pet.)



### **Family connections**

Dogs have a social hierarchy that is easily transferred from the litter or pack to the human family when owners understand the dynamics of canine communication and community interaction.

Dogs communicate with body language and vocalization. A barking dog with hackles up, body erect, ears forward, and tail wagging stiffly at half-mast is telling interlopers to keep their distance. A whining dog with ears pinned back, tail down and slightly wagging, and body cowering sends a different message. Although both are saying, “don’t tread on my space,” the former dog is doing so with authority and the latter with a plea to be left alone. Dog owners who learn to read and understand the body postures and vocalizations of their pets can adapt their own actions and training methods accordingly.

Words such as “dominant” and “submissive” can be helpful in reading and understanding dog behaviour, but they can be overused, in part

because circumstances can dictate whether a particular dog will act in a dominant fashion or react in a submissive mode. This dichotomy in behaviour is often seen when a dog bullies or ignores one or more family members and is calm, cool, and collected with others.

Dominant behaviours can include food and toy guarding, leg-humping, pawing for attention, blocking doorways, ignoring commands, growling, pushing, staring, biting, and other challenges.

Submissive behaviours can include cringing, leaning, pawing for attention, licking, growling, biting, running away, urinating, and other attempts to avoid challenges or to respond defensively to perceived challenges.

Some dogs of either type are aloof with strangers and new situations; they may take time to scope things out before their personality type asserts itself. Socialization – a combination of obedience training for good manners, trick training and game-playing for fun, and opportunities to meet people

### **Dogs will be dogs (continued)**

and experience new situations – is critical with these dogs so they don't overreact when faced with change or challenges.

### **Puppies**

Like human children, puppies are still experimenting with various personas and learning their boundaries; those who integrate puppy needs with guidance (chew this toy, not that chair; pee outside, not on the rug) will have a head start towards forging a strong bond.

The best beginning for a puppy of any breed or mix is enrolment in a good puppy kindergarten or conformation class as soon as he is fully protected by vaccinations. Shy puppies can learn to accept new situations; bold puppies can enjoy the interactions, and owners can brag about puppy accomplishments, commiserate about training problems, and ask questions about basic care and behaviour.

**Norma Bennett Woolf**



## **About the Border Collie**

**Background** The Border Collie has its origins in the border country between England and Scotland. It has been adopted as an Australian working dog because of its outstanding qualities as a sheepdog. All of today's registered Border Collies have been bred from the original working dogs. The first recorded import of a Border Collie was Hindhope Hed in 1901.

**Average Lifespan** When considering a dog, please realise that you are taking it on for its lifetime. Border Collies live to 12 - 14 years of age.

**Breed Personality/Characteristics/Temperament** The Border Collie is highly intelligent, with an instinctive tendency to work and very responsive to training. These dogs make keen, alert, and loyal and sensitive companions. As well as being loving family pets, they excel at obedience,

agility and tracking, and make great sheepdogs as well as reasonably easy-care show dogs. Borders are very much "people dogs" and need much interaction with their family. This is not a dog to be left alone in the backyard all day with no company. The combination of brains and boredom will result in the dog finding something to do for amusement - which may not be amusing to you! Even if you want your dog purely as a family pet, it is advisable to attend obedience school. A short training session each day gives your dog something to think about, reinforces your position as leader of the pack, focuses all your attention on your pet while strengthening the bond between you and your dog.





## About the Collie (Rough)

**Background** By the mid 1800s the Collie had established itself as part of the Scottish pastoral scene where it herded or guarded the flocks of sheep. The beauty and capability of the breed fascinated Queen Victoria and she set about establishing her own kennel - a move that ensured their popularity forever – and started the transition from field to the show ring. She successfully showed the breed and set a trend that was to see the Collie make a very rapid move into the homes of dog lovers.

**Average Lifespan** When considering a dog, please realise that you are taking it on for its lifetime. Collies live to 12 - 14 years of age.

**Breed Personality/Characteristics/Temperament** These are sweet natured, gentle and affectionate dogs, with a particular understanding of their owner's moods. Modern Collies do not have much chance to perform their original job, so they turn their instincts to different channels. Every Collie kept as a housedog will invariably make a "career" for itself in one way or another. It may, for instance, decide to make itself useful by being an understanding companion or "nanny" to the family.

Collies are suitable as both indoor and outdoor dogs, and love access to a securely fenced backyard to play with toys and chase balls. They love to go for walks, and enjoy obedience school, being quick learners with a desire to please. They are not fussy eaters, and if started off with the right food recommended by the breeder, will grow into beautifully healthy dogs. The Smooth Collie has all the attributes of the Rough Coated variety but simply does not require as much grooming.



## About the German Shepherd Dog

**Background** The German Shepherd Dog did not exist prior to 1899. The founder of the breed, Captain Max von Stephanitz, aspired to breed dogs which were truly utilitarian in their ability to work. This is still a priority with many breeders today, coupled with the need for a sound body and along with the trusted and loyal temperament that makes the German Shepherd Dog such an ideal companion.

**Average Lifespan** When considering a dog, please realise that you are taking it on for its lifetime. German Shepherds

live up to 10 years of age.

**Breed Personality/Characteristics/Temperament** The German Shepherd Dog is known throughout the world for its loyalty, trustworthiness and versatility. As a working dog, it is able to act as a guardian, herder, tracker, guide and, most importantly, as a trusted companion. It is in every sense it is a most capable working dog and loyal companion. The German Shepherd Dog should never be nervous, overly aggressive or shy.

**Compatibility with other pets** With proper introduction and discipline, German Shepherd Dogs do get on with other pets. The secret is early socialisation. It is most important that puppies be exposed to new experiences from as early as eight weeks of age.

**Care Requirements** The breed is active and needs some mental stimulation, so a daily walk coupled with some thinking exercise, be it obedience training or a simple "fetch the ball" routine, will greatly enhance your dog's quality of life. Grooming on a weekly basis will suffice.