

"The Shepherd News"



ISSUED MONTHLY

EDITED BY S. McCORMACK

7th Issue.

February, 1960.

PARADE & TRIAL

LARA DEMO - FEB. 13TH

The Club's Annual Open Parade will be held on February 27th at the Geelong Show Grounds, followed by the first Obedience Trial of the 1960 Season on February 28th at the Norlane Training Ground.

Owing to the two different locations for these events, which are being held on two consecutive days, there will be quite a lot of extra work to be carried out; and it is requested that Members come along and give a hand with the erection of the rings etc.

As usual a number of Stewards will be needed to assist in the running of the events.

There will be an attractive range of trophies to be won and from previous entries, indications are that competition will be keen.

We look forward to seeing a large entry of Club dogs in both the Parade and Trial.

We wish to remind Members that the demonstration for the Lara Gymkhana is almost upon us.

Apart from the actual demo, which commences at 4.00 p.m. there is a very entertaining programme drawn up which everyone is sure to enjoy.

Training has already commenced for the demo, but there is still one more Sunday Training Session left to enable you to join in the routine work - "The more dogs the merrier" !

And the crowd always enjoy seeing the puppies, so bring them along!

For last minute instructions by Colin Kitchenmaster, would Members please gather near the entrance to the Main Arena at 3.45 pm.

We would like to see all C.D. dogs wearing their Award Medals at demos.

"BLANKA THE WONDER DOG"

With the war steadily approaching the town of Einbeck, Blanka's good time was soon to turn to a more serious role.

Mr. Kellermann received his call to the Services and shortly afterwards Blanka was installed in a strong, well padded box and sent on her way to join her Master; who held a position of Chef in an Airforce Unit in Münster. Special permission having been granted by the Commanding Officer for Blanka to come to the camp.

So started Blanka's army life!

Although actually she was not a war dog, but only a guest of that unit - however, she was to pay for the hospitality of her human friends many times over.

As the Unit moved to the Russian frontier, Blanka went along too. It was then that she showed her outstanding ability once again.

The transports had gone far into the endless Russian plains when the terror of war struck - a train had stopped at the township called Paltawa as enemy planes attacked.

A number of soldiers sought shelter in a nearby park, but unlucky for them, just where the badly aimed bombs fell.

As the sky cleared of planes the men ran to rescue as many wounded as possible, but Blanka was already well in front.

The parkland was a tangled mass of uprooted trees and bomb craters.

At a mound of earth thrown up by a bomb, Blanka stopped - sniffing - then with urgent whining and barking she commenced digging frantically.

Mr. Kellermann saw her and remembering her keen sense of smell and action of a previous occasion, he raced to her aid, calling on his fellow soldiers to help.

On tearing away roots and branches, clawing away the earth with their bare hands - they uncovered the first man - then a further six were found, all still alive.

Thanks to Blanka's swift action all were recovered soon enough to save their lives.

Several days later Blanka was awarded the Iron Cross for outstanding action - the only dog ever to receive this honor.

There were many more occasions when Blanka showed that she earned this medal that shone on her proud chest, for during the war she shared many, many dangerous moments with her soldier friends.

The men were always glad of Blanka's company on night patrols as she always sensed danger when it was near, she also had an uncanny knowledge of who belonged to the Unit - enabling enemy patrols to be overthrown before they could do harm.

Blanka really was a soldier!

. . . (Continued).

Next month - "Blanka comes home".

- Mr. Bosely Keeps Busy -

Judging appointments will keep Mr. Bosely busy travelling round the country in the next few weeks,

As he is to judge at Casterton Kennel Club on Feb. 27th we will miss his valuable services as Ring Steward at our Parade.

March 5th will see him judging in South Australia and then on March 26 he will travel to Healesville to judge at the Healesville and District Kennel Club Parade.

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- Raffle to Boost Trophy Funds -

A Travelling Rug has been donated by Mr. & Mrs. McCormack to be raffled in aid of our Club Trophy Fund; which will be heavily drawn upon by our coming Parade and Trial.

Tickets are selling at 6d. each or 5 tickets for 2/- and books are available from the Treasurer.

The raffle will be drawn on Feb. 28th at the Obedience Trial and all ticket stubs must be handed in with proceeds on that date.

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Committee Members Please Note!

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Feb. 9th at 8.00 pm sharp in the rooms of the Four Square Club, Queens Chambers, Malop Street.

As the forthcoming Parade & Trial arrangements will be dealt with at some length - we request all Committee Members to make every effort to attend.

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Watch Those Flies!

Have you been annoyed at those little flies that nip you while you are sunbaking?

Have you noticed those little patches of black crust on the backs of your dogs ears?

Those same flies are the cause - by biting the ear and drawing blood.

If left unattended, the condition can become very bad, often causing permanent loss of hair from the dog's ears.

The flies annoy the dog as much as you and a simple protection is to apply some insect repellent to the back of the ears - and so keep your dog happy too!

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- DATES TO NOTE -

- Feb. 9: Committee Meeting.
- Feb. 13: Lara Gymkhana Demo.
- " " C/Ship Show Croydon Nth Agr Soc
- " " O/Parade Casterton K.C.
- Feb. 20: C/Ship Show Berwick A & H Soc.
- " " O/Parade Geelong Dist. K.C.
- Feb. 21: Entries Close G.G.S.D.C.
Parade & Trial.
- Feb. 27: C/Parade G.G.S.D.C.
- " " C/Ship Show Seymour Dog Club.
- Feb. 28: Obed. Trial G.G.S.D.C.
- " " Drawing of Club Raffle
- All ticket stubs to be in.

Training Sessions will be held on each Sunday at : Norlane Ground 10.00 am sharp
Belmont Ground 2.30 pm "

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