

THE GEELONG GERMAN SHEPHERD & OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.
NEWSLETTER NO.12

WERRIBEE was the venue for this year's FUN DAY and for the host Club that's exactly what it turned out to be!

Yes, Werribee with only 67 entries won the Shield with 34 points. Altona had 76 entries for 26 points and then us - 83 entries and only 24 points.

We had the numbers for the day in our favour, but obviously not the quality. So everyone start polishing up your acts so we can hit them hard next year. (Geelong results further on in the Newsletter.)

Next Tuesday, the 7TH OCTOBER at 8.00p.m. is our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and if you care about your Club you should be there then to cast your votes for the people you want to see run the Club for the next term of office.

The retiring Committee have performed excellently as a team and accomplished much throughout this extended term of office.

One of the biggest moves the Club has made this year was decided by a Special General Meeting held recently in which it was voted to change the Club's name to one which is more consistent with our Club's aims, i.e. to provide obedience training for all breeds of dogs be they unregistered or pedigreed, and one with which the general public can more readily identify.

The latest project was to hook up an effluent drain to our toilets and while it was certainly not one of the nicer tasks that Committees perform it was a much needed one for general cost efficiency.

To those members who helped in this project, the Ground Manager and all of us extend our thanks.

Hopefully the next issue of the Newsletter will include the President's report as tabled at the A.G.M. and his summation of the Club's aims and achievements will be more fully documented.

Remember General Meetings are the venues at which you can air your views, be they commendations or otherwise, regarding how the Club is run. Everyone is entitled to their opinion as to how the Club should run, and these meetings are where you can have your say.

Members attending General Meetings are reminded to bring a plate.

BOOK REVIEW

EVERYDOG - the complete book of dog care by Rowan Blogg and Eric Allan.

Have you ever left your vet and then started to worry about the questions you should have asked regarding the nature of your dog's condition, treatment, diet etc.?

The subject matter of this Australian publication is based on thousands of questions asked by clients over many years. Written by two experienced veterinary surgeons, it covers the detailed information they would like to give clients, if they had the time.

All aspects of dog health and care are covered - how to treat accidents and disease, and when to call the Vet. Extensive lists of inherited diseases and traits of specific breeds, approximate weight of dogs and bitches, over 40

Cont...2/

types of common poisons with symptoms and emergency treatment, and early signs of cancer are just a few examples of useful information.

The most distinguishing feature of EVERYDOG is the abundance of clear illustrations and cartoons, which ensure that accuracy is not affected by the simplicity of the text. A clear, comprehensive index and glossary of terms contribute to make this a valuable reference for dog owners.

Published by Methuen, Australia Pty.Ltd.1983. Recommended price \$21.95.

Phyl Bergin
Librarian

THE STRAY DOG

O God in Heaven, look down on me
and help me in my adversity.
Abandoned by my friends am I
and cast upon the street to die;
Hungry, tired and faint I roam
Vainly seeking another home
Unheeded by the hurrying throng
As on their way they go along,
With no time to spare for a poor
Though created by the self same.
No kindly word, no friendly pat;
Surely they could spare me that.
Ignoring my timid, mute appeal,
They pause not even to bestow
A glance of pity as I go
Resuming again the endless quest,
Something to eat - a place to rest
I, who to man gave all I'd got,
Am NOT by man forgot.

From -

THE LOST DOGS' HOME AND VETERINARY HOSPITAL
2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne

FOOT IN MOUTH DISEASE

Who needs a guard dog in the family when the lady of the household can guard as voraciously! Seems parking spaces were scarce within the vicinity of the grounds at Moorabbin trial, and as the male members of the team decided they needed to go out for further fortification, the young lady was left to make sure no-one homed in on the gap left by the vacating vehicle. The spot was guarded fiercely and when a male driver tried to encroach on this much sought after position he was told, NO-ONE can have this spot, it's mine! Feeling very proud, she later pointed out the man whom she had flushed out, and a rainbow crossed her face: for it was only a Senior Member of the K.C.C. Advisory Committee! Beginners luck!

INSTRUCTORS are reminded that it is their duty to return ALL buckets to the disposal area after their respective classes have finished.

TRIAL RESULTSMYRTLEFORD

Elaine Janes	Jess (Labrador)	ASS.OPEN (First Open Trial) 1st Place 1ST PASS
--------------	--------------------	--

MOORABBIN

Sue Halson	Gallelong Jipsy Mist (Dutchess) (Dobermann)	NOVICE 2ND PASS
Mitzi Clarke	Ormslee Proud Ingrid (Asta) (Rottweiler)	NOVICE 2nd Place 2ND PASS
Georgina Richards	Wynard Birah (Bess) (German Shepherd)	NOVICE (Umpteenth Trial) 1ST PASS <u>FINALLY, WELL DONE!</u>

Elaine Janes	Jess (Labrador)	ASS.OPEN 1st Place, 2ND PASS
--------------	--------------------	---------------------------------

Elaine Nelson	Chips (Border Collie)	ASS.ENCOURAGEMENT 2nd Place
---------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------

BENDIGO

Elaine Janes	Jess (Labrador)	ASS.OPEN 1st Place 3RD PASS <u>GDX</u>
--------------	--------------------	--

* Highest Scoring Ass. in Trial

Elaine Nelson	Chips (Border Collie)	ASS.ENCOURAGEMENT 1st Place
---------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------

Elaine Kennedy	Matilda (Border Collie)	ASS.ENCOURAGEMENT 2nd Place
----------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------

* Well one would think it was only a day designed to thrill Elaine's with that record. Unfortunately, Elaine Janes success of the day so overwhelmed her after a safe journey from Bendigo to Geelong she was involved in a motor vehicle accident in Geelong that evening. This was a serious accident and Elaine spent some time in the Intensive Care Unit of the Geelong Hospital. However, we are glad to welcome Elaine back to training again, even if she does do a lot of things in slow motion now. Congratulations from all of us and keep up the good work Elaine.

BALLARAT

Christie Douglas	Xion Clarissa (Shannon) (German Shepherd)	U.D. 1st Place, 1ST PASS
------------------	--	-----------------------------

Now the heat is really on as Christie has caught up to her father, Graham.

Graham Douglas	Pandowy Justus (Shilo) (German Shepherd)	U.D. 1st Place, N.Q.
----------------	---	-------------------------

Elaine Nelson	Chips (Border Collie)	ASS.NOVICE (First Novice Trial) 2nd Place, 1ST PASS
---------------	--------------------------	--

Cont...4

TRIAL RESULTS CONT...

NORTHERN

Marie Elliott

Shepholme Storm Song (Kelly)
(German Shepherd)

Tracking Qualification

Brian Gardner

Ormslee Proud Chieftan (Strider)
(Rottweiler)

NOVICE

3RD PASS

CD

Up the fat Dobermanns!

FUN DAY RESULTS

CLASS 1A

CLASS 1

3RD Ann Marie Noble & 'Turbó'

CLASS 2

3RD Lesley Gaylard & 'Tammy'

CLASS 3

1ST Paul Riemer & 'Rambo'

CLASS 4A

3RD Diane Dunn & 'Amy'

CLASS 4

2ND Garry Matthews & 'Rambo'

CLASS 5A

3RD Bernadette Barrett & 'Suby'

CLASS 5

1ST Pauline Holland & 'Lady'

2ND Steve Cociani & 'Salem'

CLASS 6A

3RD Sue Halson & 'Dutchess'

CLASS 6

3RD Mitzi Clarke & 'Asta'

CLASS 7

1ST Brian Kerr & 'Jassy'

CLASS 7

2ND Chris Linguey & 'Kay-Cee'

CLASS 8

1ST Trish Coghlan & 'Jessica'

CLASS 9

-

CLASS 10

2ND Graham Douglas & 'Shilo'

3RD Kristy Douglas & 'Shannon' (this was done by telepathic handling).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Our last Sunday training day for 1986 will be on 19th October and this day will be in the form of a CLUB Fun Day. Entries will be taken on the day. The competition starts promptly at 9.30a.m. Instructors will advise their pupils the week before as to what class to enter. Each entry will cost 0.50¢ which you hand to your respective Judge before entering the ring (it's called bribery), No, not really; all proceeds of the day go to the Guide Dogs of Australia.

Cont...

Cont...5/

The presentations will take place only after ALL Classes have been finished and you must be there to collect your ribbon. However, to expedite the proceedings the Novelty classes will commence as soon as a few of the Class rings have finished and run through til no later than 1.00p.m. Entries in the Novelty events will cost 0.20£ and mum, dad or the kids can compete here - it is open to all comers. The Novelty events will consist of "THE FASTEST RECALL", "DROP ON THE SPOT", "FASTEST GOOD-O EATER" and the "BEST LOOK ALIKE".

THEN members can stay and cook their lunch on the Club BBQ and relax at the tables that are there for everyone's use. To those people with other commitments this still leaves you with most of the afternoon to use as you wish.

It is 'FUN' and you are only all competing against yourselves, so let's see a good roll up.

WEDNESDAY evening training will commence on the next WEDNESDAY which will be 22nd October at 7.00p.m.

THE PET CEMETERY

The first Pet Cemetery originated in France 87 years ago and is the resting place for many of our animal world film stars; one of the 'RIN TIN TIN' dogs being amongst them. Recently pet lovers were seen to take a strong stand on its conservation when the French authorities thought of closing it and using the area and the surrounds for other purposes.

Our own Victorian Pet Memorial Garden is situated at Rowville and has been operated for 20 years by Mr. John Alexander.

The cemetery is divided into three categories "FELINE FAMILY" for cats, "CANINE COURT" for dogs and "JUST US FRIENDS" for a variety of animals. You may have your pet buried or cremated there, and you then order a headstone to your wording, or you may elect just to have your pet's name on a communal plaque. The communal plaques are interspersed throughout the garden area. The headstones are set into the ground, face up, in a river pebble surround.

People may visit these gardens at any time. The double cyclone gate is always shut and it has a chain and lock on it, but despite its looks it is always open (like our own gate to the grounds). If anyone wants more specific directions I can show you where it is in your Melways.

THE ALTERNATIVES

To those people who have vague ideas or doubts in their minds about these places and whether that's where they want their companions to go to, obviously the decision is yours, and a cemetery is certainly not a choice that appeals to everyone.

If you are able to bury your pet in your own garden and place a plant on the spot in remembrance you are fortunate, but of course this doesn't help flat dwellers or people who move around from address to address.

The other alternative is that your Vet. will offer to dispose of the animal for you to save you further pain. However, the disposal site is the nearest Tip and although this may horrify some people, it is an un-emotional task that Vets. perform daily.

Cont...6

I had been personally interested in this cemetery since I first saw an advertisement in the paper about it and had made enquiries as to placing my Dobermann there when it was his time to rest. I really felt I owed my dog "Resch" this as he had been through some traumatic times in his 13 years of life with me, plus many new addresses and the Darwin Cyclone; and goodness knows what for the first two years of his life before he as a "found dog" was offered to me.

I'd made up my mind and had saved the money so that when that night finally came and he was put down at 15 years old, I had the vets. wrap him up and took him straight to Melbourne to the home of Mr. Alexander who was very gentle and kind in his manner, befitting the sadness and personal loss that I felt. I arranged for "Resch's" cremation and the headstone and was told that as soon as it was all completed I'd be sent a photograph of it in its resting place.

True to the time set for the stone work to be completed, the photograph came and I subsequently made my first visit to the Cemetery/Memorial Gardens.

To wander around and read everything that first time is both sad and joyous. It is reassuring to know so many people have been so close to their pet companions be it dog or anything else.

Mr. Alexander has certainly filled a need for many people.

Due to the location of the cemetery I only get to visit once per year and on the last occasion I took my German Shepherd into the gardens with me. I knew roughly where "Resch's" headstone lay in the most congested area of the gardens (obviously at the time of his death there were quite a lot of other dogs layed to rest about the same time and this particular section is a bit cramped space wise), but I was getting a bit frustrated because I couldn't locate it, so I told "King" to sit and stay while I made a further hunt. So up and down the rows again searching.

Suddenly I realized where it was. "King" had found it, and was sitting on it, and that's exactly what did happen! The chance of that occurring was a thousand to one and I truly believe in that instance that the sixth sense attributed to many animals was in strong evidence here. Personally I believe that dogs do have this sixth sense that many of us humans are never able to bring out and develop in ourselves and there have been strongly documented cases to support this.

Within our own Club Library there are books that deal with this subject and I am sure Phyl, our Librarian would be delighted to help anyone that would like to learn more about this, yet another facet of understanding the dogs we love and live with.

My beliefs may not be your beliefs, but it is worth the effort to read about these things and then form your own judgement.

Elaine Longshaw

My thanks are extended to Enid once again for the use of this variable type typewriter, and to Jim who 'makes with the ink work in running these pages off. Incidentally Jim just had a birthday and the saying is "that life begins at 40" so watch out all you female club members.

LATE NEWS - Charlie Bartolo & 'Maltacha White Angel' got their CDX at the ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW in the Obedience Section!! Well done.