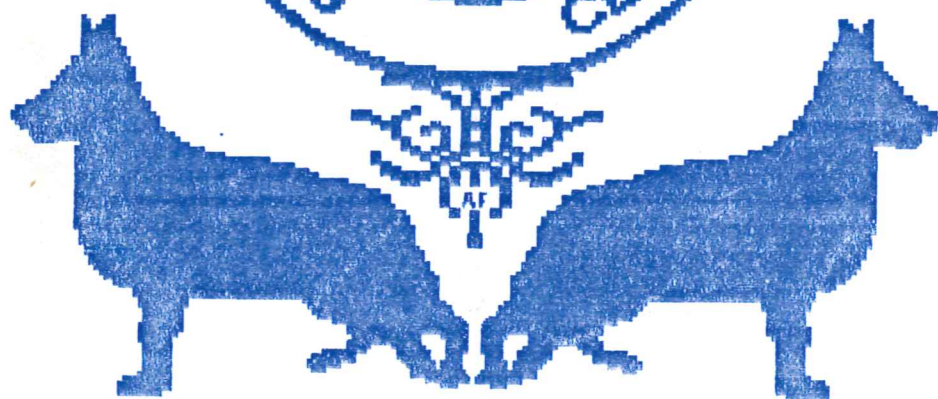
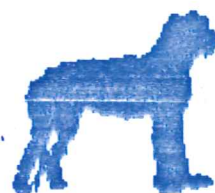


FAITHFULLY YOURS



EST 1954



GEELONG OBEDIENCE
DOG CLUB Inc
P. O. BOX 186 GEELONG
VIC. 3220

MARCH 95
NO. 63

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.
Committee for 1994/95

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|---------|---|
| <u>PRESIDENT</u> | Fred Lehrmann | 21 5318 | Public Officer |
| <u>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</u> | Meinhard Breiberg | 78 2296 | |
| <u>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</u> | David Blackwell | 48 6208 | Club Nominee (after 7 pm) |
| <u>SECRETARY</u> | Lisa Blackwell | 48 6208 | (after 7 pm) |
| <u>TREASURER</u> | John Bell | 43 2587 | Property Officer |
| <u>ASSISTANT SECRETARY & TRIAL SECRETARY</u> | Leonie Kelleher | 43 1277 | Training Manager |
| <u>GENERAL COMMITTEE</u> | Arthur Thorogood | 48 7287 | Training Supervisor |
| | Barbara Thorogood | 48 7287 | Hall Manager |
| | Lorraine Waldron | 48 1012 | Canteen Manager |
| | Michael Foord | 50 2374 | Publicity Officer |
| | Pam Convery | 29 0145 | Club Shop |
| | - | | Grounds Manager |
| | - | | Assistant Hall Manag. |
| | - | | Assistant Grounds Manager |
| | - | | Social Secretary |
| <u>NON-COMMITTEE</u> | Elaine Longshaw | 55 4603 | Newsletter Editor |
| | Desma Dickeson | 78 9585 | Demo Team Leader & Ass. Training Supervisor |
| | Colin Humphreys | 82 2683 | Ass. Training Supervisor |
| | Phyllis Bergin | - | Librarian |
| | Wendy Bartels | 29 6546 | Raffle Steward |

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 THE SECRETARY, P.O. BOX 186, GEELONG, V. 3220. CLUBHOUSE PHONE NO: 43 4555

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.
NEWSLETTER NO. 63



A warm welcome is extended to all our new members. May your time spent with us be enriching and one that enables you to have a better understanding of man's best friend, **YOUR** dog.

The Newsletter is distributed bi-monthly on the last training day of that month by way of your Instructor. If you are unable to attend on that particular day, please advise the Secretary and she will retain a copy for you to be collected from the office.

Like our illustrious President says, what to write about is sometimes a problem. However, I recently had an opportunity to attend a seminar, as an observer, on an alternative animal training regime.

Our Club works basically on the methods of Michael Tucker, one of our State's most able all round trainers, but there are many different schools of thought on dog training. However, different dogs do respond to different stimulus and within this method called the **Tellington Touch** there is much usage of the "halti" as a training aid, body bandages to be used at home to instil confidence into the dog; and of course the "touch". The latter was first tried with horses over many years, then was extended to llamas, wildlife and into the dog world. Through skilled use of this "touch" animals can be calmed so that they can perform better in their daily lives and in whatever type of event they are competing in. This has no relationship to "imprinting" on horses as recently seen on Bourke's Backyard.

While it may not be the answer for all of the problems we encounter, it certainly brings us yet more tools to work with, and hopefully will bring a better quality to the time spent with our dog(s).

The Club has been fortunate in securing the services of one of the Tellington Touch proponents Ms Martie Magee currently in Australia courtesy of the Llama Association. She will be giving a Seminar at the Club on April 28. The details of this appear elsewhere in the Newsletter. So please consider.

The history of our Club was researched and condensed for our 40th Anniversary Trial and Dinner Dance in our Obedience/Agility catalogue. Any member wishing to obtain a copy of this from our Shop can do so for a small donation.

DATES TO REMEMBER

31.3.95 **Display team** @ 6pm, Tates Street Primary School. Come along and support your fellow club members. They are working for the Club each time they attend a function.

2.4.95 **General Meeting** (the first for 1995). **ALSO** Easter Bun orders must be handed in.

14.4.95 **GOOD FRIDAY** Annual Fish Barbecue. We supply the BBQ and wood. You supply everything else. The annual cricket match follows the ingestion of food.

We have no Certificate Passes in this Newsletter as too early in the year to have had a testing day. Unfortunately we are also missing any results from obedience or agility trials. Obviously this year's competitions have not produced the scores and/or times worthy of mention. Work harder you teams!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's only eight weeks ago since my last report and I'm at a loss for an item to write about, but already she is on my back again to come up with an article. **Who?** You don't know? It's our Editor. She is one of those who work in the dark, behind the scenes, out of the floodlights. She collects, sorts out, proof reads, sets out and types, keeps track of advertisements, gets on every department heads' back and so on goes her activities. Oh, she does work for a living as well, and who is she? She, is our Elaine Longshaw, Life member.

Elaine has trained and trialled, first a German Shepherd and then Dobermanns which she also shows with success. She has been our Editor for quite a number of years and let's hope a few more still. It's one of the positions in the Club we all take for granted because everything is done without much fuss and very quietly, but we would be lost without the Newsletters.

Say hello to Elaine by means of contributing articles or photos of interest to all members, to be used in future issues of our **"Faithfully Yours"**. A very big **"Thank You"** to you, Elaine.

To help bring the Newsletter out in time (bi-monthly) are Arthur Thorogood and Leonie Kelleher, as well as any member they can grab to print and staple together the many pages. So if you can help in anyway, let us know.

The hot weather slowed down the training attendances and new members' intake somewhat, but we look forward to an increase in both sections soon.

Please help and support all departments as it stimulates greater efforts and enjoyment.

Easter is coming up, so practise your batting and bowling skills for our Annual **Easter Fish** (or meat) Barbecue.

Lately we have missed **"Marj"** in the Puppy Class. Marj spent some time in hospital recently. I wish her a speedy recovery, and all of us hope to have you back amongst the Puppies.

Until next time,
Good training.

FRED LEHRMANN



(The typist says "Thank You" Mr President!)

TRIVIA

Did you hear about the chewy breath-freshener mints for dogs that have recently gone on sale in British pet shops. Called **Breath-Oze** ("the mints with a howl") are proving popular in America.

Big dogs such as Rottweilers need one a day to keep halitosis away; small dogs such as corgis will stay sweet with half a portion according to the manufacturers.



INTRODUCING THE COMPLETE DOG CARE AND FITNESS COMPLEX "K9 SWIM N GYM"

- ◆ Clipping & Grooming
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(PROPS: TEHREE & HAMISH GORDON)



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BARWON HEADS

PH: 54 2484
FAX: 54 3380

OBEDIENCE CORNER

NO

No is the most overused word in dog training ever used. The poor dog is told no this, no that, no, no, no. The problem in using the word **no** is that you have not **ACCURATELY** communicated with your dog what it is you actually want. You are also not giving your dog an opportunity to learn a new response to the stimulus that is causing the unwanted behaviour. Example, your dog lunges at other dogs.

You say no. What do you mean??? Are you telling your dog he hasn't lunged hard enough, or hasn't barked loudly enough or maybe he simply isn't being aggressive enough. You may know what you want but does the dog.

The better solution is to immediately **GIVE** your dog a **POSITIVE REQUEST**, i.e. tell your dog to sit or heel (sit next to left leg) the moment he sees another dog and before he starts the lunging. You can then reward the dog for sitting. The dog now learns when he sees another dog he is to sit or heel and because he is rewarded will find meeting other dogs a pleasant experience instead of something to dread. This in itself will cause a decrease in aggression. Pulling dogs away from each other, on tight short leads, yelling and jerking only winds many dogs up into a frenzy increasing aggression and definitely making matters worse.

Whenever you are trying to teach your dog something, or trying to stop your dog from doing something, don't say **no**, **SHOW HIM (TEACH HIM) WHAT YOU ACTUALLY WANT HIM TO DO** and reward him for it.

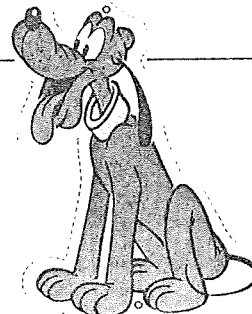
If you take the time to teach the dog what you want and if **THE REWARD IS POWERFUL ENOUGH** any dog will opt to do what you want.

Good luck with your training. Wendy Nicholson

(Reprinted with permission of the Bendigo Obedience Dog Club Inc.)

DID YOU KNOW? Two years ago Jackie Zajac and Sheila Mullan set up a drive-thru restaurant for dogs in Toledo, Ohio, known as the Puppy Hut. This concept has proven so successful that they are now setting up a fast-food chain of Puppy Huts across America. These will feature Park and Bark picnic areas and ARF discount cards for peckish pooches nine years of age and over.

(Reprinted courtesy of Uncle Ben's, Pedigree Pal Digest, Canine Trivia compiled by Judy Chapman.)



Animal Attraction

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ADVERTISING RATES AS FROM MARCH 1993:

All advertisements will be restricted to Half A4 Page
size, with a limit of 12 advertisements per issue.

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 12 months | \$75.00 |
| 6 months | \$50.00 |
| 1 edition | \$25.00 |

Half page "Vale Notices" and "Title Notices" are free with the
owner supplying the print.



V A L E

"S u l t a n"
3.6.1981 - 6.3.1995
(German Shepherd)

So long together you and I, and so many memories
I have of you over the years.

We went along a new direction in life, meeting
new friends and challenges - a loving partner-
ship and I will miss you.

You will always run on silent feet beside me.

Softly the leaves of memories fall.



Beloved friend of
Desma and Nicole



A T T E N T I O N

WHAT:

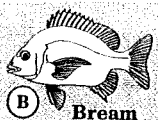
Annual Fish (or other) BBQ

WHERE:

Club Grounds

WHEN:

Good Friday, April 14



(B)

Bream



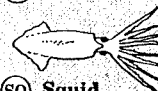
(L)

Leatherjacket



(S)

Snapper



(SQ)

Squid



(G)

Garfish



(TR)

Trevally



(M)

Mullet



(F)

Flathead



(W)

Whiting

HOW MUCH: Nothing, because you bring your
own everything (including Easter Bunny, if
you are fit enough to catch one).
WE SUPPLY THE BBQ AND WOOD.

ENTERTAINMENT: You are, when you get
involved in the cricket match.

***** WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS *****

MARK & JUDITH GAHAN
MARLENE LAWRENCE
JANINE & JUDITH MILLS
DARREN STEBBINGS
KATHERINE CAMPBELL
THE BATES FAMILY
LORRAINE STOTT
LINDSAY & HARRYETTE MURPHY
SOFIA WRZUSZCZAK
BRIAN SPILLER
BALINDA & CRAIG MCLENNAN
JODIE & MARK OSBORNE
THE CRITCHLEY FAMILY
ERIN PETTIGROVE
PETER & PAULINE WILLIAMS
MERVYN & COLLEEN WORSFOLD
DAVID CARNEGIE
SIMON CONRON
ELOISE & BRIAN HUNT
MELVA SHCRAA
THE MCINNES FAMILY
BOB & JOCELYN MC KNIGHT
PAULA KHAN
JOHN & MAXINE AMBROSE
KERRI LEE

JAMIE RUTTER
THE LE BLAC SMITH FAMILY
DAVID & MARIA ROLFE
NICOLE MILLER
JOSIE & PAUL SMELTER
CAROLYN COOMBS
THE HEANE FAMILY
LESLEY & JOHN HART
LORELL SHEPPARD
ANGUS ROGERS
ANDREW & SHARLENE STANKIEWICZ
STAN & GAVIN ROGERS
FRANK & MARGARET VALASTRO
ANN MORTON
DALE NEVILLE/ANNETTE LOWDAY
KRISTEN & KARALYN BELL
GREG SCHREUDER
THE LEWIS FAMILY
PATRICK & JOAN SHEEHAN
ELEANOR PAINTER
PATRICIA AMBROSIO
RACHAEL JUDITH COLLINS
KIM & SUE STASINOWSLEY
EVIE SALIH

HELEN SPILLER
ANDRE EVANS/ ROBYN DAWSON
ANTHONY & SHARELLE DOUGHERTY
THE COLLESS FAMILY
DIANA ORMENO
VALERIE RICHARDSON
PAUL WAGENKNECHT
ANNE FORD
DENIS EGAN
THE BLONK FAMILY
JEANNIE KELLEY
BARRY & SUZANNE MCFARLANE
ANGELA BERRIDGE/MILLAR CELLAND
MONICA & ANTHONY LOUREY
KELLY & DOREEN MALONE
JOHN & NOLA O'SHEA
THE SUTHERLAND FAMILY
KATHY CARROLL
TERRY & NICOLE RADFORD
CHRIS WATSON
GARRY & SANDRA MUSCAT
THE HURST FAMILY

ATTENTION:.....

TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE OBTAINED A
TITLE, & TAKEN A PHOTO FRAME TO PUT THEIR DOGS PHOTO ON THE WALL, &
HAVEN'T;- WILL YOU PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE CURRENTLY
WAITING ON SOME MEMBERS FOR AS LONG AS 18 MONTHS. IF YOU DON'T
WISH TO PUT YOUR DOG'S PHOTO UP, THEN PLEASE RETURN THE FRAME SO AN
OTHER MEMBER CAN USE IT.

THANKS, LISA BLACKWELL.

DID YOU HEAR THAT - A German Shepherd called Fido was put into
boarding kennels in Belgium for an indefinite stay. The owner
subsequently requested the dog be sent to her in Spain, where she
lived, but was told by the manager of the kennels that this was
not possible - as Fido had been given away. So imagine the owner's
surprise when Fido turned up on the doorstep some two years later,
having found his way a thousand miles back home!

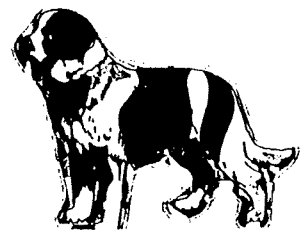
(Reprinted courtesy of Uncle Ben's, Pal Digest, Canine Trivia)



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24 YEARS
EXPERIENCE



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88 Barrabool Road., HIGHTON

HEARTWORM DISEASE IN DOGS

What is heartworm?

Heartworm is a parasite, *Dirofilaria immitis*, which causes serious disease in dogs. The adult worm lives in the heart and adjacent blood vessels.

How is it spread?

Adult females produce larvae, called microfilariae, which circulate in the dog's blood. Mosquitoes sucking the dog's blood ingest the microfilariae. In certain species of mosquitoes, these microfilariae undergo further development and become infective larvae which are transferred to other dogs via the mosquito's bite.

The larvae spend 6-7 months undergoing further development until adult worms are present in the heart.

Why the recent interest in this disease?

Over the past few years there has been an increasing incidence of heartworm in southern Australia. Before this it was primarily a disease of northern tropical areas.

What are the signs of heartworm disease?

It can take several years for an infected dog to show signs of heartworm disease. The signs vary depending on the number of worms present, the length of the infection and the size, age and general health of the dog. Signs are those of congestive heart failure, i.e. coughing, breathing difficulties, fainting, decreased exercise tolerance and ascites (excess fluid in the abdomen).

How is it treated?

Adult worms can be killed using a drug called "Caparsolate". As this treatment is potentially fatal, dogs are hospitalised and closely monitored. The symptoms of congestive heart failure are also treated.

How can I find out if my dog has heartworm?

Routine blood tests are conducted which detect the presence of microfilaria in the blood.

How can I prevent my dog catching heartworm?

Dogs that are at risk of being infected should receive regular preventative medication. There are two drugs routinely used: "Dimmitrol" which is given daily or "Heartguard" which is given monthly. Medication starts at six months of age; dogs over six months need to have a heartworm blood test first to ensure they don't have an adult infection.

Is heartworm a problem in Geelong?

At this stage there have been no confirmed cases of heartworm disease in dogs who have only ever lived in the Geelong region. The

Cont...

HEARTWORM DISEASE IN DOGS (Cont..)

Is heartworm a problem in Geelong?

disease, however, has become endemic in certain areas of Melbourne. Preventative medication is advised for dogs who travel in to heartworm endemic areas.

(Reprinted Courtesy of The Bellarine Veterinary Practice.)

Editor's note: We have run Heartworm articles in the Newsletter on earlier occasions, but this is addressed to the newer members, and to those who wish to go trialling. If your dog is shown, does obedience, agility or tracking and/or comes into contact with visiting dogs, then you should place your dog onto regular heartworm medication.

TRIALLERS PLEASE NOTE

Highest Scoring Registered and Highest Scoring Associate for Year

A record must be kept of all the trials you entered this year and the relevant score. They don't have to be brilliant scores (nor qualifying) but your average is calculated and then five points for each trial is added to your average score. It could be you taking off this award if you care enough to keep records. Forms for tallying these points on are retained in the Secretary's office.



NEWSLETTER INCLUSION OF TRIAL RESULTS

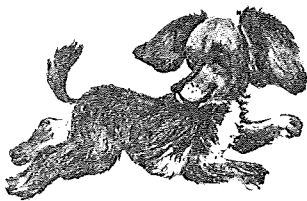
All results to be published in this Newsletter must be submitted in writing to either the Secretary or myself (the Editor) stating name of trial; registered name of your dog; ordinary name of your dog; breed of dog; what class you entered in and whether you gained a place and/or a pass. Alternatively these details will be accepted by telephoning the Editor.

TITLES GAINED IN OBEDIENCE, AGILITY AND TRACKING

If you wish to receive a medallion at the Presentation Night, you must hand in details of your obedience, agility or tracking titles gained for the year to the Secretary. These results must be in writing.

For those gaining such titles, you are entitled to submit a half page resume of your dog's achievements which will be published in the Newsletter free.





OBEDIENCE, AGILITY & TRACKING CALENDAR

OBEDIENCE

CLOSING

ACTUAL

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Moorabbin & District O.D.C. | Closed | 2.4.95 |
| Welsh Corgi Club (R.O.T.) | Closed | 2.4.95 |
| Rhodesian Ridgeback Club (R.O.T.) | Closed | 8.4.95 |
| Border Collie Club | Closed | 8.4.95 |
| Golden Retriever Club (R.O.T.) | Closed | 8.4.95 |
| Warringal Obedience Dog Club | 26.3.95 | 9.4.95 |
| Goulburn Valley Obedience Dog Club | 1.4.95 | 15.4.95 |
| Goulburn Valley Obedience Dog Club | 1.4.95 | 16.4.95 |
| Dobermann Club Of Vict. Inc.(R.O.T) | Closed | 21.4.95 |
| Red Cliffs District Kennel Club | 8.4.95 | 22.4.95 |
| Red Cliffs District Kennel Club | 8.4.95 | 23.4.95 |
| Ballaarat & District Obedience | 10.4.95 | 23.4.95 |
| Hungarian Puli Club (R.O.T.) | 2.4.95 | 30.4.95 |
| Croydon & District Obedience D.C. | 16.4.95 | 30.4.95 |
| German Shepherd Dog Club (R.O.T.) | 6.4.95 | 6.5.95 |
| German Shepherd Dog Club (R.O.T.) | 6.4.95 | 7.5.95 |
| Altona Civil Obedience Club | 16.4.95 | 7.5.95 |
| Murray Valley Obedience Club | 29.4.95 | 13.5.95 |
| Murray Valley Obedience Club | 29.4.95 | 14.5.95 |
| Ovens Valley Canine Club | 30.4.95 | 20.5.95 |
| Berwick Obedience Dog Club | 7.5.95 | 21.5.95 |
| Wangaratta Kennel & Obedience Club | 30.4.95 | 21.5.95 |
| Keilor Obedience Dog Training | 14.5.95 | 28.5.95 |

AGILITY

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Border Collie Club | Closed | 8.4.95 |
| Goulburn Valley Obedience D.C. | 1.4.95 | 15.4.95 |
| Goulburn Valley Obedience D.C. | 1.4.95 | 16.4.95 |
| German Shepherd Dog Club (R.O.T.) | 6.4.95 | 6.5.95 |
| German Shepherd Dog Club (R.O.T.) | 6.4.95 | 7.5.95 |
| Bendigo Obedience Dog Club | 22.4.95 | 6.5.95 |
| Berwick Obedience Dog Club | 7.5.95 | 21.5.95 |

TRACKING

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Tracking Club of Vic.(Prelim.) | Closed | 1.4.95 |
| Knox Obedience Dog Club | 15.4.95 | 13.5.95 |
| Knox Obedience Dog Club | 15.4.95 | 14.5.95 |
| Gippsland Obedience D.C. (Prelim.) | 17.4.95 | 15.5.95 |
| Gippsland Obedience D.C. (Prelim.) | 17.4.95 | 16.5.95 |
| Border Collie Club | 28.4.95 | 27.5.95 |
| Border Collie Club | 28.4.95 | 28.5.95 |

Attention:

For all those who were successful in either Agility or Obedience at our Anniversary Trial the results have been published in this month's (March) edition of **TOP DOG JOURNAL**. This magazine is available in most Newsagencies for \$2.00 per copy.

R.O.T. = Restricted to that Breed



CLUB CALENDAR

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 27.3.95 | Instructors' Meeting |
| 31.3.95 | Tate Street Primary School DISPLAY TEAM |
| 4 4.95 | General Meeting |
| 9.4.95 | Promotion Day |
| 14.4.95 | Good Friday - Fish BBQ |
| 16.4.95 | Easter Sunday, NO training |
| 23.4.95 | Puppy Intake |
| 24.4.95 | Instructors' Meeting |
| 27.4.95 | Tellington Touch - Seminar |
| 2.5.95 | Committee Meeting |
| 7.5.95 | Puppy & Class 1 Intake |
| 10.5.95 | Newsletter Closing date |
| 21.5.95 | Puppy Intake |
| 28.5.95 | "Spirit of the West" NO training (To be confirmed.) |
| 29.5.95 | Instructors' Meeting |

(Members are reminded that General Meetings commence at 8pm unless otherwise notified. All participants are asked to bring a plate please.)

Does your dog get tired of the same boring biscuits night after night - well try a little bit of home cooking:

Biscuits

3lb (1.36kg) wholemeal plain flour
8oz (227g) dripping/fat
1 teaspoon cod liver oil
½ teaspoon salt
stock or beef cube

Mix to a stiff dough, roll out to ½" (13mm) thick, cut into squares and bake in a moderate oven for ½ hour until golden brown.

TRIVIA -

Seems the Queen's pet dogs have been fitted with identification microchips as part of a campaign by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, according to reports from the Palace.

Royal cocker spaniels **Oxo** and **Bisto** had the chips placed in the skin behind their necks in a painless procedure.

(The chips help in identifying lost animals and are available through our own Veterinary Clinics.)



THE TELLINGTON TOUCH

Does your dog suffer from any behavioural problems? For instance is her or she...

Mouthy or a chewer

Timid or unfriendly

Unfocused in training

Afraid of thunder or loud noises

Pulling on the leash

Difficult on vet visits

Aggressive (Aggression will be discussed both towards other dogs and people. However, owners of aggressive dogs are not allowed as full participants, they are only permitted as observers.)

Then you may benefit from attending our Seminar on
FRIDAY , April 28, 6.30 - 9.30pm

Conducted by the internationally recognised expert **Marty McGee**, this Seminar presents a pioneering new form of animal healing and training - one that can help calm animals, restore their confidence and ease pain, fear or tension.

The Tellington Touch technique finds areas in an animal's body that indicate fear of contact, tension, soreness or discomfort - all of which can limit the ability to co-operate or perform. Specific touches and movements are then taught to reduce tension and to release discomfort and pain or the fear of pain and to change attitude and behaviour.

DETAILS:

The fee of **\$35.00** covers the 3 hour training session with your dog, notes and refreshments afterwards.

There are limited vacancies for observers only (without a pet).
Fee: **\$10.00**.

There is a limit on the numbers attending so first in best dressed and money has to be up front at time of booking.

Please see **Lisa Blackwell** for your booking.

Please arrive by **6.15pm** for a prompt start at **6.30pm**.

If a full participant, please supply your dog's name, breed and age.

ATTENTION ALL FULL V.C.A. MEMBERS

Having just received the latest Gazette after I had completed my editorial (late again), you will find an envelope with details of postal voting enclosed therein. If you want a say in how the V.C.A. should function, you **MUST VOTE**. Never mind if you don't personally know the people - they have all the resumes in the Gazette for you to read. Make up your own mind, but don't leave it until later. Read the resumes **now** and send your voting slip of **now!!**

Seems the things man and his dog can do as a team are never ending. The World Champion Disabled Water Skier has his faithful friend enter the water at the completion of each of his runs and then uses the dog's tail as a rope to tow him back to land. (Blind man)!!
A winning combination.

Having experienced the best summer for many years, the drier conditions have been proving very favourable for the flea armies - hence this reminder on how to fix that problem.

HOW TO FIX THOSE FLEAS

Fleas not only make life uncomfortable for infested animals, they act as a host to tapeworms and are the major cause of skin allergies in dogs and cats.

The biggest problem in fighting fleas is that adult fleas spend little time actually on an animal and most of the flea life cycle takes place in the surrounding environment, i.e: carpet, bedding, kennels, soil etc.

Flea control must then be aimed at:

1. Treating **ALL** animals in a household at the same time
- AND**
2. Treating the animals' environment

Flea treatment for dogs and cats:

The modern flea treatments available focus on disrupting the flea's life cycle. Two products exist: Ovitrol, a spray which prevents larvae hatching into adult fleas and Program, a monthly paste which prevents fleas laying fertile eggs. The costs are approximately \$23.00 for the spray and from \$5.70 to \$10.70 per month for the paste depending on the size of your dog or cat and whether you purchase it singly or by the box.

BOTH THESE PRODUCTS HELP ENSURE THAT FLEAS WILL NOT RE-INFEST YOUR ANIMALS.

Treating the environment

1. Vacuum all areas thoroughly, including outdoor areas such as kennels and doormats.
2. Wash bedding frequently and use an insecticidal spray that will sterilise the flea eggs.
3. Keep areas free of debris and litter.
4. Use an insecticidal fogger inside, eg: Siphotrol (Average cost per house approximately \$50 for a three bedroom home. This will treat a house for nine months.

(Reprinted courtesy of Bellarine Veterinary Practice)



THE POWER OF THE DOG

There is sorrow enough in the natural way
From men and women to fill our day;
But when we are certain of sorrow in store,
Why do we always arrange for more?
Brothers and sisters, I bid you beware
Of giving your heart to a dog to tear.

Buy a pup and your money will buy
Love unflinching that cannot lie -
Perfect passion and worship fed
By a kick in the ribs or a pat on the head.
Nevertheless it is hardly fair
To risk your heart for a dog to tear.

When the fourteen years which Nature permits
Are closing in asthma, or tumour, or fits,
And the Vet's unspoken prescription runs
To lethal chambers or loaded guns,
Then you will find - it's your own affair,
But ... you've given your heart to a dog to tear.

When the body that lived at your single will,
With its whimper of welcome, is stilled (how still!),
When the spirit that answered your every mood
Is gone - wherever it goes - for good,
You will discover how much you care,
And will give your heart to a dog to tear!

We've sorrow enough in the natural way,
When it comes to burying Christian clay .
Our loves are not given, but only lent,
At compound interest of cent per cent.
Though it is not always the case, I believe,
That the longer we've kept 'em, the more do we grieve;
A short-time loan is as bad as a long -
So why in - Heaven (before we are there)
Should we give our hearts to a dog to tear?

RUDYARD KIPLING



DID YOU HEAR - That in the U.K. dogs are being trained to warn epileptics of seizures hours before they strike?
Research has shown that some dogs seem to detect subtle changes in their epileptic owners that even high-tech equipment is not able to pick up.

Frankston Council has currently embarked on a campaign to educate people as to why dogs bark in an effort to help owners and neighbours to amicably sort out grievances. They have produced a booklet which has been widely distributed. The ranger said that dogs barked because they were bored, confined, isolated, anxious, uncomfortable or there had been changes in their life. Barking was also an alarm, to protect territory, announce a presence or to attract attention. Well done Frankston Councillors.