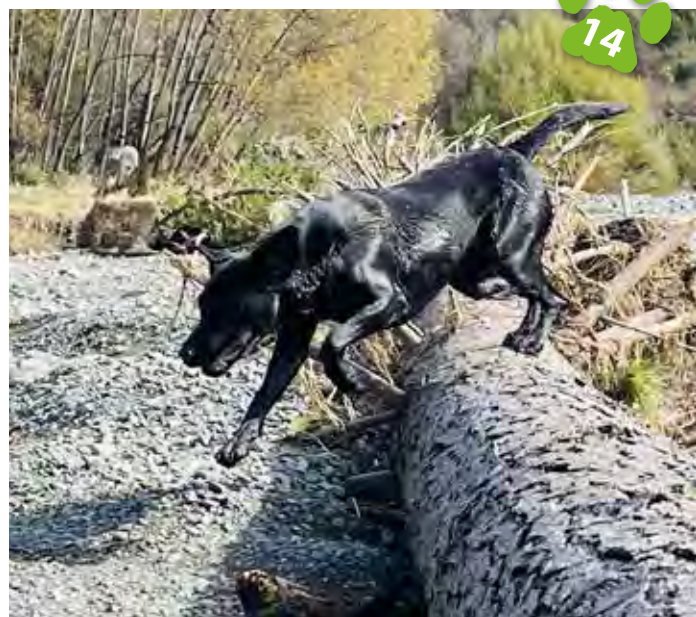
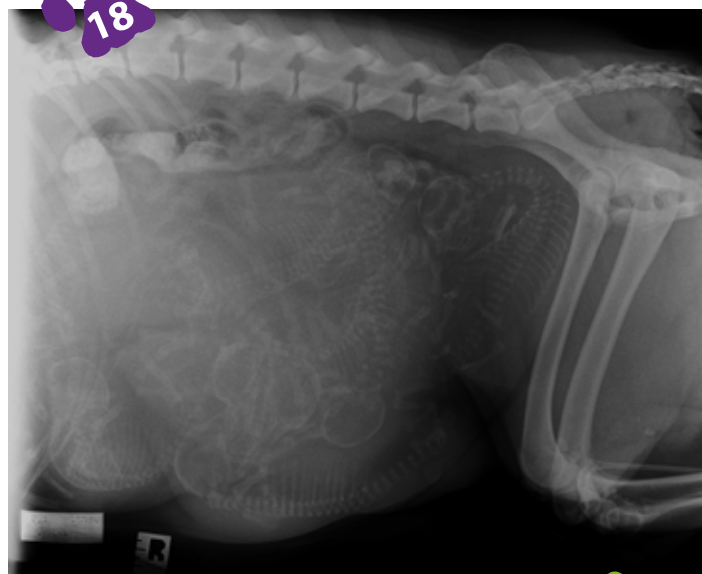


NZ DOG WORLD

INCORPORATING "THE NEW ZEALAND KENNEL GAZETTE"

September 2024

November
Schedules



Front Cover

Thanks to Beth Warman for sending in this photo, by Linda Guardiano of Dreamweavers Photography, of the first registered Kaninchen Dachshund to come to New Zealand. From Japan via Australia, welcome Roger (JAP CH, PHIL GR CH, AUST CH & NZ CH PLUM K.K. JP VIP GENTLEMAN), a Dachshund (Kaninchen Long Haired), snapped at his first NZ show (Geraldine Kennel Society). He's currently living at Beth's Corsair Kennel while in NZ. 🐾



This month

| | |
|--|----|
| Working Retriever Club: New club on the block..... | 14 |
| Canterbury Dogs NZ FCI Show | 70 |
| Guide Dog Month | 22 |

National Dog Training Assembly 24: Judges' profiles ... 24

Regular features

| | |
|---|----|
| From the President | 3 |
| Canine Corner: Health benefits of dog ownership | 4 |
| Ringside Thoughts: The neuter/spay debate | 6 |
| Agility: Test your knowledge! | 8 |
| Canine Friends Pet Therapy: Around the regions..... | 10 |

Policy & Health

| | |
|--|----|
| Whelping: The realities of breeding | 18 |
| WSAVA Guidelines: Control of reproduction in dogs..... | 28 |

Notices

| | |
|---|----|
| Take the Lead | 21 |
| Dogs NZ Club Tool Kit..... | 30 |
| Dogs NZ Club Tool Kit Step-by-Step..... | 32 |

Premier Show Dog of the Year 2025 34

| | |
|--|----|
| Member Clubs of Dogs New Zealand | 35 |
| Show Schedules | 44 |
| 2024-2025 Show Dates | 64 |
| Results, Awards & Titles..... | 66 |
| Canine Good Citizen Results | 73 |
| Club Notices | 73 |
| Recent Exports | 74 |
| Litters..... | 74 |
| Kennel Names..... | 74 |
| Scale of Fees..... | 75 |
| Advertising Rates..... | 76 |
| Advertisers' Index..... | 76 |

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From the President...

September and October are traditionally two of the busiest months of the year for Dogs New Zealand. Starting with the Purina Pro Plan 2024 National Dog Show at the beginning of September, incorporating a



host of satellite shows with 19 judges from seven countries. With a total entry of 975 and a Dog Training entry of 159 the show promises to be a special week.

October sees us host the National Dog Training Assembly at the Riding for Disabled Centre in Christchurch. At the same time the NZ Dog Agility Championship will be held at Trentham and the 8th Dogs NZ FCI CACIB show will be held in Tauranga.

None of the events could be held without the hard work of an amazing group of volunteers and the very generous support of Purina Pro Plan. On behalf of Dogs NZ, thank you all.

In recent times we have seen a proliferation of negative comments on social media. If it's your intention to destroy our sport you are doing a very good job of it. There is no room for what can only be described as nastiness that appears on Facebook and other social media. Judges are reminded that commenting on other judges is in breach of the Judges Code of Conduct and there could be consequences.

In the next few months we will see the much-awaited Show Manager programme turned on. For show secretaries and exhibitors alike, this will be welcomed with open arms.

Finally, may I wish those of you who are competing in one of our national events over the next two months great success. 🐾

Brian Harris

President

It is nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

Find us on Facebook



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The health benefits of dog ownership



It's hard to pick up a newspaper or go to an online news website and not read something about New Zealand's faltering healthcare system. Funding for, and access to, health care seems to be an enduring problem.

What better time to talk about the health benefits of dog ownership?

Let's consider the simple act of taking your dog for regular walks. Walking is a weight-bearing exercise which is recommended for women to combat osteoporosis, for example. Pick up your pace and it's an aerobic exercise, too. The endorphin release from being outdoors in the fresh air helps to support mental health as well.

In a study funded by Purina (New Study Reveals the Many Benefits of Having a Dog, [purina.co.uk](https://www.purina.co.uk)), 69% of dog owners surveyed in the UK felt that their fitness had improved through the act of taking their dog for regular walks, and 79% of dog owners agreed that owning a dog has encouraged them to become more active outdoors.


There are also documented studies of dogs being a 'social lubricant,' breaking down barriers so people can interact positively with

one another. These effects have been seen in working groups such as office situations as well as with children who have been diagnosed with autistic spectrum disorders. Having a dog present gives people something to focus on, developing rapport.

Last year, in the USA, the Human Animal Bond Research Institute commissioned an economic impact report to quantify the health benefits of pet ownership. The study found that pet ownership contributes to a savings of a whopping US\$22.7 billion each year.

In the report entitled *The Health Care Cost Savings of Pet Ownership*, savings were itemised in a range of health care areas including:

- US\$15 billion, because pet owners visit the doctor less than non-pet owners
- US\$4.5 billion for reduced spending on obesity and its impacts, because dog owners regularly walk their dogs which helps to combat weight gain
- US\$672 million in savings for households with children, because they have a 9% lower probability of developing anxiety disorders when there's a pet in the household, saving on demands for mental health support
- US\$1.8 billion for the health care provided to older people who, with pets, are less likely to suffer the ill health connected to social isolation and loneliness

With a growing body of knowledge about the health benefits of pet ownership, perhaps one of the keys to solving New Zealand's health care crisis lies in providing greater support for and promotion of dog ownership? 

Animal MRI Facility Closure

In the September 2022 issue of *NZ Dog World*, I wrote about the dedicated animal MRI facility opening in Christchurch. Sadly, this facility was closed at the end of 2023.

Terry McLaughlin, Group Chief Executive Officer of RHCNZ Medical Imaging Group, reports, "Our MRI pet service in Christchurch was short-lived, but certainly worth a go. We did not get the referrals we anticipated and there was no indication this was going to change in the near- or medium-term."

Ringside Thoughts

The neuter/spay debate

If you have anything to do with conformation dog shows you will have, at some point in the last 10 or so years, been involved in a discussion around whether desexed dogs (aka Neuter/Spays) should be allowed to be shown in the conformation ring and, if so, in what capacity. And if you have a desexed dog of quality in your back yard, your opinion will likely differ from some of your other competitors.

Exhibition of desexed dogs at shows has been debated at Dogs New Zealand's Annual Conference of Delegates for many years now in one form or another. It took a number of years for the concept to be adopted by the membership, firstly just at Open Show level in all classes, even though our neighbours in Australia were allowing Neuters and Spays at Championship Shows. Around 2016, the move to allow desexed dogs to be exhibited at Group and Specialty shows in all regular classes was successful, but the club must advertise this in the event's schedule. Then, in 2020, the regulations were changed to allow neuters and spays to be exhibited in their own separate breed class – 18 & 18a – and compete for Neuter/Spay titles and awards at all breed events. However, the class is optional, at the club's discretion, and the neuter/spays are judged as a separate 'breed' to the entire dogs and bitches.

The minutes of a recent Executive Council meeting indicated that EC were of a mind to allow desexed exhibits at Specialty and Group Championship show level as of right and without the need to advertise acceptance in the schedule. From what I can ascertain, there have been instances where a desexed dog is entered, the club secretary has inadvertently permitted the entry, but the allowance of Neuters and Spays wasn't published in the schedule. Obviously, this has caused a few headaches for all involved and the proposed regulation change would have solved this problem. However, EC put this on hold pending the outcome of a recommendation to this year's ACOD. That recommendation was to relegate the neuters and spays to the separate breed 18/18a classes across all championship shows, including group and specialty shows. This was hotly debated with opinions strong on both sides. However, it didn't receive the support required to be passed. Will we ever get a consensus? Will we ever find a 'happy medium'? Probably not, but as one who has debated this subject at ACOD previously (on both sides, I have to admit) I have my own thoughts on a solution, and I think it is worth sharing some information for our members so they can form their own opinion.

In the last 12 months 81% of All Breed clubs have added an 18/18a class to their show. This is a lot higher than I had expected and is indicative of support for the neuters and spays at All Breeds level. However, only 38% of Group clubs allowed desexed dogs in their regular classes. And finally, 61% of specialty clubs allowed desexed dogs in their regular classes. My only comment here would be: I wonder if all our specialty and group clubs understand the regulations around permitting desexed dogs at their shows?

I think we will all agree times have changed. Yes, dog shows were originally about displaying and discussing breeding stock but is that really the case anymore? Yes, there is certainly still an element of that, but if we are really honest, dog shows are now so much more about competing and winning and the social side of the sport. So many of our neuter/spay exhibits have previously had very

successful show careers before being desexed and many have gone on to produce top winning dogs. If we wish to show them now at an All Breeds show they are relegated to a separate breed class or at Group shows if the clubs choose to allow desexed dogs to compete.

There are some that will argue that in a coated breed, a desexed dog or bitch has an advantage over an entire as they have a better coat and don't have the hormone generated coat drops. The reality is though, in many breeds the quality of coat changes upon desexing and our judges should be assessing correct texture rather than mere quantity. And coat shouldn't be the reason a dog or bitch wins. It is only one aspect of the judging assessment. I would also venture to say, in some breeds, where the judge is correctly assessing the quality of the coat, the desexed is at disadvantage rather than an advantage. And of course, for our shorter coated dogs, that argument is unlikely to apply. Plus, I honestly wonder how many bitches have been spayed, maybe after a C section birth, and the owner has unscrupulously continued to show the bitch as an entire. How would we ever know? Mostly it is suspected but no-one is ever brave enough to put the money down and lay a formal complaint.

And then we have the artificial testicles which have been inserted by a vet. I think we have all heard of the judges who have suspected but couldn't be sure and then there are the stories where the judge has found three testicles! Where there is competition there will always be those who do not play a fair game and yes, the regulations do allow for investigation and penalties if proven but the reality is that it would be rare for a judge or member to lay a formal complaint on these grounds.

Then there is the argument based on reports of overseas judges being 'horrified' that they awarded a desexed bitch at specialty show. As judges we have a duty to familiarise ourselves with the show regulations of countries we are invited to judge in, and clubs should communicate with their judges if they are allowing desexed entries at their shows. Many specialty clubs are very aware that a large number of their entries come from desexed exhibits and therefore are very supportive of allowing neuter/spays in the regular classes. Sometimes, as judges, we see exceptional examples of the breed in the neuter/spay class at All Breeds shows and wished they were in the regular classes, such was their quality.

And finally, I have even heard an argument saying it is unfair if a desexed exhibit gets the challenge. Why? If the challenge is awarded to a neuter/spay and it is the best of the line up, then it is points towards its Neuter Championship titles. How is this different to points towards any title?

The most common argument in favour of allowing neutered and spayed dogs in the show ring is that it allows new exhibitors to try their hand at showing as most pets now are desexed. Gone are the days (and it wasn't that long ago really) where pups were purchased with no neuter/spay endorsement, no 'not to be shown or bred from' endorsement, and the puppy purchaser was free to show or breed from that pup if they so wished. Add to that the reality that our properties are no longer the classic 'kiwi quarter acre' plus many councils around the country appear to have an anti-dog sentiment and are tightening their restrictions on the number of dogs allowed and, in some cases, forcing breeders to move districts to avoid the

Agility - How much do you know?

Complete the crossword puzzle below

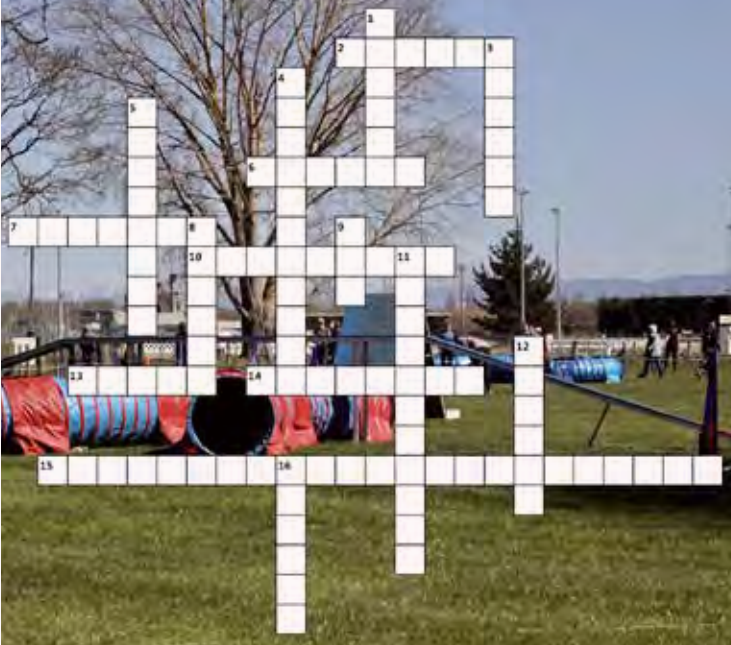


Across

- 1. A fast-paced team sport that involves navigating obstacles with a dog.
- 3. Who is the person responsible for scoring and overseeing the performance of the dog and handler combination in a competition?
- 4. A common obstacle in that requires the dog to zigzag between poles.
- 7. What is the term used when a dog avoids jumping a hurdle from the correct side?
- 8. A game where the dogs are required to accumulate points at the start of the course, and then perform a section of the course without the handler being allowed to enter a designated area.
- 10. What is crucial for avoiding faults and completing obstacles correctly?
- 11. A piece of equipment where the dog must walk across a narrow plank and touch the coloured area at the end.
- 14. What term describes when a handler gets a head start on the course while the dog waits at the start line?
- 15. A command used to direct a dog to jump over a bar in dog agility.

Down

- 2. What is the preparation process called to ready a dog for agility competitions?
- 3. A competitive event where dogs only perform tunnels, jumps and non-elevated equipment.
- 5. A popular dog breed known for excelling in agility due to their speed and agility.
- 6. A penalty in agility for knocking down a bar on a jump.
- 9. What is the abbreviation for the annual national dog agility event that takes place.
- 12. What is the name of the area the dog must touch when performing obstacles like the A-frame, Dog walk and see saw.
- 13. Before the now height regime same in, there were four dog heights. Micro, Mini, _____ and Maxi?



Across

- 2. A dog is given a refusal on this piece of equipment if it jumps off before the equipment begins to move.
- 6. All handlers, and all _____ of a dog, must be financial members of Dogs NZ before entering a Championship Agility Event.
- 7. What is the name of the new sport that agility has recently introduced to NZ?
- 10. The piece of contact equipment that was banned from use in agility was called what?

Down

- 1. The judges panel that consists of senior judges who aide new judges in agility is known as what?
- 3. The name of the obstacle that requires the dog to zigzag between poles is known as what?
- 4. What is the name given to a class where the 600 dogs and small dogs compete together as a separate group to the 500 dogs. (3 words)
- 5. The highest level of Jumpers in NZ is _____. (2 words)

ALL THINGS AGILITY!

Can you find all 30 words relating to agility?

KCEW OIXX KX XH T X O J G E X C U Y D P S W L B N Y G I J N R R G G W B E
ELTGE XSA XOG WVLDE OX I W Y L R V N T I Y B P L J P A M Y Y S G O
LIAVFA PABQLIFOC SUPAVRYHJ IHDASNFDFJMMNJSMBZR
LV IWE PVBZVHULLRSCHEH D U Z R A W I Z J G Q B R B S T M B Z R
V X D K G Z U E S R X D E V X N N E K C I O J P G G B X H B M L X R E G C L C
M V E X S O R K P E Z Y R G K T S Q H R I D B C E O D R E H E K I V P U W O X
H J M N G F D W O P L R V C U Y F D A N Z F D I A X M L T R S R E T R A T S X
T K R E U G D O Y Q L H X Z S J E O R E E C P A G E K H G S K O P R V A C F I S
M A E M U A S Y E W B E Q N G B Q N M B I S U D B X T E M P I F L C O I T D E N N X
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C L N H O M Z G R N G X M O O I D D R G M X E Z A L O C X Q H D U Y B B A K O M
H B I R V H C C L G Y Y U L K I D I A W F E T Q R Y P J D K J G Q A R E C O N T
O X C N K N H B U J X W F W E S A K E C S I B K T B Q D W J J T J V A N B Z M
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H L L N D C V O Y S V S E H X M U K X C V K C B F L P M E E E H V B S Z U Y
L R N L P A A U S T F P C L U X R T V J Z O U C E Y U Y Q B C S A I X P E Y X W
C V R L G M E N R S M T W Z A L S X F I B N A S U Q Y R E B I I C N Z Y V Z C G
Q X R T C M U L S U Z W G O S G E V Q Z P X X U H Y E R Z X O V B L X A E J M
Y T I L I G A J J N J H X E O F I N S S P O A L J Y W Q G H U G T O Y U E L V B
D W H S J D P O H Z B Y Q R V F N F N K B E L D A E R H T M R N B Y N C W J E K
H G R C F J J Y V S D M C K W F D A O U Y Y A R K P L S Z M A P J L O S E D V
I J H I D G Q A T W U T U N E L L D M G Y K K S A L E I Q V W X J R J I V B J
X U B C T A X R W O N R K K M G X X O D H Z Y U D I M P K L F N J P W U T Z Z K
B Q G U H L A M B O Z W B U J K U L G B N V O N A E J J L E K A X N A S B R G
R U D N D E Q J J R S R X X F Z K S L S N U E V Y L Y Q T G R S F C V D P O B J T
F B P K L X F Z L O W M G Y V J L P J P M T K N O F A D O B I X R K K D R
S P R E A R C R O S S J U M P E R S O P M B I I D P Y U A C V Y T V B I R R N A
F Q Q L Z K M N O V L I L J S U O N R S R N K L Z O O C P M E S O N V P O K D I
D O U J S I G G K F Q R F B C E O P X T N G I A L V A Q X I N L N A D E N W I A
V Z R M V J J N R J O X B X C N E E T N C C C Q D U W Z I K K M G H I I O R I W
O C W P U P R K R Z A C I W L R Z S T D Q D B D P R Q B K T R P B O S H V W U C
H K M M K N M E F Q I R Q F U Y T F A X V U S I A M M C Q E B W U W C J T Z I P
L X P G A J G Y X S P A U V T Y V P M U J X P X E U T S I K F N P Q T L H M R Q B
N K L Y X F R L A T T S G Y W F Y C D O J R F E F C C T I B X K X M T X M Q L Q
D I O Y Y J W T N F O W Z B L A C K J A C K S O U Y E E M F U C W N W E D F X L
W A T O Y X S M Q J V E M T T P B B T C O D S Q O N P X H T Y Z I K M H K W V Z
D I F U S O G C Y B D O G A W U N P B N M B F X H M D W O S C I U P G B Q M N C

| Agility | Intermediate | Senior |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Black Jack | Jump | Snooker |
| Blind Cross | Jumpers | Starters |
| Brush Jump | Jumpers Pairs | Strategic Pairs |
| Course Walking | Leadout | Threadle |
| Cross Over | Long Jump | Tunnel |
| Dog Sport | Novice | Tyre |
| Dog Walk | NZDAC | Weave Poles |
| Front Cross | Rear Cross | Weaves |
| Gambler's | See Saw | Wing Jumps |



Around the regions

Vicki Graham, President

Over the next few months we will feature our Liaison Officers and Support Teams around the regions. This month we feature Raquel Kallas from Gisborne and Rotorua's Vicky Gaunt & Julie Cowell. 🐾



Raquel Kallas - Gisborne

I have been a member of Canine Friends Pet Therapy with my dog Ellie since February 2021. Ellie's origin story is quite special. She was found on the side of the road between Napier and Gisborne during the first COVID-19 lockdown of 2020. The SPCA was at capacity, and due to lockdown was not able to move dogs to new homes and many faced euthanasia. However, an exception was made for Ellie as the staff were struck by

her beautiful nature and calm demeanour. She has been paying it forward ever since, spreading joy and love to everyone she interacts with on a daily basis.

We have visited the mental health unit in the Hawkes Bay Regional Prison fortnightly for two years, outside of some extended COVID-19 interruptions. Visiting with incarcerated men dealing with the impact of mental health issues was at first a daunting task for me, but Ellie took it in her stride and made every visit a rewarding experience for everyone involved. I was endlessly impressed by her ability to put people at ease, in spite of unpleasant circumstances.

In June 2023 I moved to Gisborne for work. As there wasn't a Liaison Officer here at the time, I reached out to the national committee and was appointed to the role. Since then, our membership has increased to seven volunteers who visit four rest homes across Tairāwhiti. While visiting a rest home feels quite different to a prison environment for me, Ellie seems to view it as just the same — a place where she spreads love without judgement.



Julie Cowell - Rotorua

I started volunteering for Canine Friends in 2009 with a 10-year-old English Pointer named Cindy who visited Makoha Rest Home for four years. Just before Cindy passed away, I introduced my three-year-old Rottweiler Penny to Canine Friends and visited various rest homes. As a special request from the nursing staff, at Rotorua Hospital Rehab Unit she visited for seven weeks.

In 2011 I adopted a retired Greyhound called Sunny who took to visiting rest homes as if it was the most natural thing to do. Sunny also visited various rest homes as well as Rotorua Hospital with Penny. Sunny became a favourite at Lara Hodge where he enjoyed

Vicky Gaunt - Rotorua

I have been a member of Canine Friends since 2015, starting out with Blake and now Finnley, both gorgeous Golden Retrievers.

During this time, I have been privileged to visit residents at the aged care facilities in Rotorua. It is so rewarding to see the familiar smiles on resident's faces when one of our dogs enters a room and I think the dogs enjoy it as much as we do.

For the last four years, I have also been providing a weekly Children Reading to Dogs programme with Finnley at Malfroy Primary School. We see about 12 children each week, some from a Te Reo class, and all enjoy their sessions. We have been made very welcome by the entire school, even having them sing to us at a Matariki celebration, topped off with some Te Reo books and dog treats!

There is a variety of opportunities for our local group in addition to regular rest home visits. These have included still life modelling for children's art classes at the Arts Village Rotorua, which has a fun session attended by some very talented young people. We have been invited to as community day in September which will be a great opportunity to advertise and promote Canine Friends to the wider community.

Since taking on the Liaison Officer role at the end of 2022, I am enjoying supporting new members as they start their visits. It is lovely to watch their confidence grow as they get to know the residents and staff. We have also enjoyed group visits which give our members and dogs the chance to meet each other.

Currently we have 20 members who regularly visit; several work full time so this is a great commitment.

having a cuppa with the residents. Sadly, Penny passed away in 2019 and Sunny in 2021. I got another Rottweiler called Amber in 2019 and adopted another Greyhound called George in 2021. They are both currently visiting Fergusson Rest Home and are much loved by all the residents. George is losing his eyesight but it does not stop him from using his nose to locate his favourite residents. A special request was for Amber to visit to a man who had Rottweiler that he took to work with him every day. It is lovely watching the residents' faces when the dogs visit. All of my dogs have passed some level of Canine Good Citizen which has helped when introducing them to Canine Friends.

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting all the local rest homes and have spoken and listened to some amazing people.





New Club on the Block

Formed in September 2023, The Working Retriever Club is, we think, the newest dog training club in New Zealand.

The **Working Retriever Club** (WRC) is a national club that aims to promote the training of Working Retrievers for both hunting and participation in gundog trials.

Since its formation, the WRC has already undertaken some significant activities. In February 2024, the WRC held its inaugural trial in Twizel, in conjunction with the Canterbury Gundog Club. Interestingly, the Canterbury Gundog Club was formed in 1933, meaning a 90-year gap in the creation of these clubs who worked together to support what is a heritage dog sport in New Zealand.

In March 2024 a 'walkup' weekend was held in stunning hill country in North Canterbury. A walkup trial simulates a hunting situation where the dogs and handlers are required to pick up game with other dog teams in close proximity, and only picking up specified game. This game may have been seen land by the dog, or may be retrieved 'blind' where the dog does not see the location. This takes significant skill with dogs following directions given by the handler

while working whatever wind is present.

In addition to trials, a number of training days have been held aiming to introduce participants to Gundog training. These have been highly successful with a recent training day in Canterbury having over 25 dog teams participating. These training days, like trials, are open to all Gundogs, not just retrievers.

The WRC is looking forward to hosting another training day in July, the 2024 South Island Gundog Championship in September, the North Island Gundog Championship in October, and is investigating other opportunities to run training days and trials throughout New Zealand.

Anyone interested in knowing more is encouraged to follow our Facebook page, or email us at theworkingretrieverclub@gmail.com. Membership applications are also welcomed with members having exclusive access to training advice in a supportive community of people committed to training Working Retrievers. 🐾

Janelle Mackie



Dogs New Zealand FCI All Breeds CACIB Show



Canterbury Kennel Centre, 11 August 2024



Top left: **Best in Show 1st Chow Chow** NZ SPR CH TSARJOLAN BRIGHT STAR GAZER (J Jenkins-Piggott)

Top right: **Best in Show 2nd Poodle (Standard)** CH TAI YUAN GLAMOUR ME (A Donaldson-Rogers & S Donaldson-Rogers)

Left: **Best in Show 3rd Cocker Spaniel** CH SUEDANKA RECEIVED MY HALO (A Calman)

Right: **Best in Show Baby Puppy Lhasa Apso** BRYNROI BOB RESCUE ME (A Ancell)

Bottom left: **Best in Show Junior Japanese Chin** CH KINO DAISY DEEVA (C Garvey-Webb & K Morton)

Bottom right: **Best in Show Veteran Belgian Shepherd (Tervueren)** NZ CH MIRRIBANDI TIME TO ROCK (IMP-AUST) (K Strauss)



Whelping

And the realities of breeding...

When I chose my Holly dog many years ago, I thought to get a girl in case I might breed, to provide some personal experience behind the knowledge and advice I gave in the clinic. It would have been lovely to have some babies of hers now she's passed but it would have been difficult juggling busy puppies and my demanding job. Of course, I see owners and bitches at their most vulnerable, sometimes late at night when things aren't going to plan.

Decisions

The decision to breed your bitch starts 63+ days ahead! First we must ask the question 'Why do we want a litter?'. I often hear 'it would be good for the children to see' or are they secretly thinking it's an extra source of income. Do they really have the time and energy to help bring up a litter?

Are they prepared to put their pet dog in pup? Many people don't realise how much effort and worry is involved. Not to mention the risk to the bitch if it doesn't go to plan, and the cost of a C-section if one is needed after hours.

Then we have other decisions... Who will I mate her with? How much will the size of the dog affect the pups; What in-inherited lines and diseases do we know about? Finally, is the task of finding good responsible homes for the offspring, or deciding to keep them all yourself.

Preparation

I am surprised how many clients come in with pregnant dogs and have very little knowledge. I recall a client amazed at the things I taught him as he watched on. In fact, I left him watching a video on my Pet Health Awareness YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/@DrChristineMackenzie) featuring Lucy whelping while I set up a cage. He let me video his Blue Heeler bitch for a recent YouTube video. Clients are happy to share their pets stories and experiences for education purposes.

The learning and preparation to breed starts even further back. The timing of the mating is important for that crucial progesterone

rise. Recording heat dates and having progesterone blood tests is essential to narrow down the opportune window if time is scarce and travel involved. Vaccinations for parvovirus should be up to date well in advance of pregnancy so immunity can be passed on to pups.

Pregnancy tests are best done by ultrasound at 25-35 days or a relaxin blood test at 45 days that detects a placenta. X-rays won't pick up the bones in puppies until at least 45 days and by then the bitch may look swollen. Remember she can also come into milk but be having a false pregnancy!

The diet of the bitch is important considering we are feeding the developing pups inside. A good quality 'puppy' diet should be fed from five-to-six weeks gestation and provide all the requirements so we rarely rely on additional calcium supplements. Thankfully, life-threatening milk fever is rarely seen now.

Try and avoid sudden diet changes, especially later in gestation. Like most diets, transition slowly, by mixing the two diets, over a week. And don't over feed the bitch as she can have whelping complications.

A week in advance, prepare an area such as whelping box with rails and absorbent safe bedding. This should be in a quiet, draft-free room maintained at 25-27° C. Introduce her to it prior so she is familiar and settled.

The bitch's temperature can be taken daily to identify the helpful 1-degree drop which marks whelping will likely begin in 24 hours.

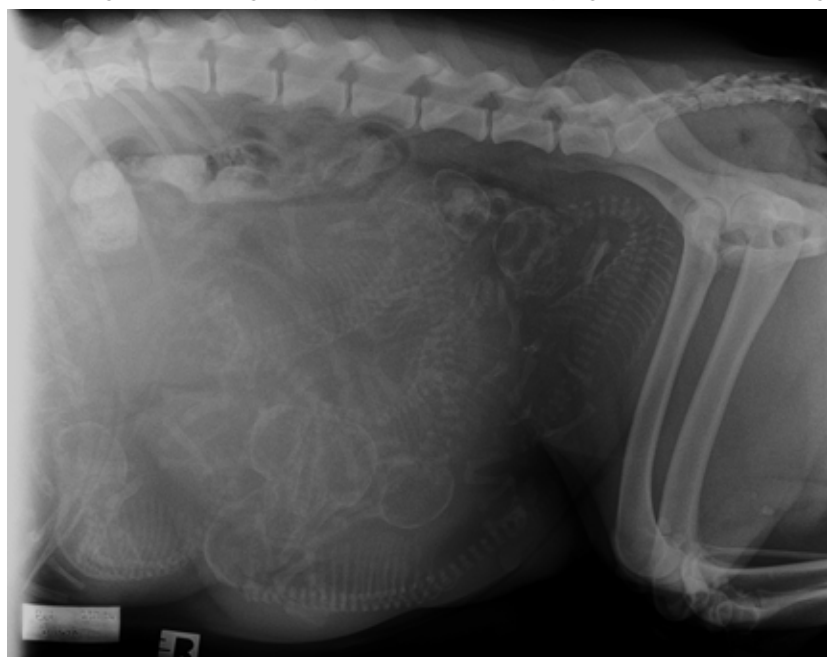
When it happens!

Often you will see the 'water break'. Inside, the pups are wrapped in two sacs, floating in a protective bubble of fluid, getting nutrients and oxygen in the blood supply of the placenta, attached to mum's uterus. If this placenta separates at birthing, but there is a time delay getting the pups head out of the inner sac to breathe the outside air, then the puppy can suffocate. There is no way to know if the placenta has separated yet. However, a green discharge is usually a strong indicator all is not well. That's why it is essential some monitoring of the vulva area is done at this time.

Clipping the hair and watching for discharge or sac is helpful. I even think a clean gloved finger with sterile KY jelly or lubricant gently inserted an inch or two (depending on size of dog) can be helpful to feel for feet or head. Especially in those bitches pushing hard, it's a good idea to see/feel if things are progressing. I recall one patient whelping for 24 hours that had a head stuck. If only they had looked or felt the vulva area to realise it was stuck and not progressing.

In my earlier days as a vet nurse, I had an assignment on a part of anatomy. I picked the sacrotuberous ligament. This interesting ligament relaxes during birthing and stretches so when the bitch contracts it allows the pelvis to pivot more from the tail bone and basically opens that area up. This means assisting with *gentle* traction, like I did calving cows, is best *only* when the bitch is pushing/contracting. Gently rotating the pup can also sometimes dislodge hips that may be caught.

Obviously too much pressure can be damaging so if





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Celebrate

Guide Dog Month

PD Insurance and Dogs New Zealand are celebrating Guide Dog Month this September by exploring several popular guide dog breeds. While any dog of an appropriate size, temperament and trainability can be trained as a guide dog, several breeds are known for their expertise in this regard.

Guide dogs perform an incredible job supporting people with low vision or blindness to be more independent. They help guide their handler through everyday environments such as public transport and shopping centres. These dogs require a high degree of training to support their person by navigating numerous social environments without getting distracted.

Popular Guide Dog Breeds

Dogs were the first domestic animal and have been helping humans as friends, protectors, companions and supporters for a long time. Guide dogs are testament to the many ways that dogs can improve our lives.

PD looks at three guide dog breeds that have built a reputation for doing this type of service work. (These are not the only breeds known for doing this incredible work and as such, this isn't an exhaustive list.)

Labrador Retriever

The Labrador Retriever has a history of helping people both on land and in water. Their early progenitor, from Newfoundland, Canada would help fishermen haul in their nets. To this day the Lab is famed for being a water loving dog with a double coat that's somewhat of a waterproof wetsuit.

From Canada, Labrador Retrievers were brought to England where they were prized as gundogs thanks to their ability to retrieve fallen fowl with a soft touch mouth. It's this soft mouth that also helps the breed support not just people with vision impairment but a range of physical disabilities - since the breed is able to carry phones, remote controls and other items with a gentle touch.

Labrador Health

Labrador Retrievers are also known for missing the 'off' gene that tells them when they are full (many would argue all dogs are missing this gene!). As a result, Labrador breeders and owners will know it's important to take care of what and how much the breed eats to avoid obesity and the risk of diabetes. The breed is also prone to heart failure, elbow and hip dysplasia and ear infections to name some.

WSAVA Guidelines

For the Control of Reproduction in Dogs

Becky Murphy, BVSc, becky@tcivets.co.nz

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Reproduction Control Committee, in collaboration with various international stakeholders, has developed comprehensive guidelines for both surgical and non-surgical sterilisation methods in dogs. These guidelines, which are free to download (wsava.org/global-guidelines/reproduction-guidelines/), offer detailed insights into procedures, benefits, risks, and ethical considerations surrounding reproductive control in dogs.

Surgical Sterilisation Techniques

The guidelines provide a thorough overview of various surgical techniques for sterilising dogs, highlighting both traditional and modern approaches. Key procedures include:

Male Dogs: Scrotal and pre-scrotal approaches, vasectomy, and auto ligation of the cord in paediatric dogs.

Female Dogs: A clear distinction is made between ovariectomy (OE), subtotal ovariectomy (SOHE), and ovariectomy (OHE).

For female dogs, OE is recommended in the absence of uterine pathology due to its benefits, such as smaller incisions, quicker recovery, and fewer complications. Hysterectomy, often referred to as an 'ovary-sparing spay', is also discussed at length. The use of advanced surgical technology, including electrosurgery units and vascular clips, is advocated to enhance the success and safety of these procedures. Minimally invasive laparoscopic approaches are highlighted for their advantages, including reduced pain, fewer wound complications, and improved visualisation.

Surgical sterilisation options for whelping bitches are discussed, emphasising that modern anaesthesia methods do not increase maternal risk when performing procedures like SOHE or en-bloc hysterectomy.

Non-Surgical Sterilisation Alternatives

For owners who prefer non-surgical methods or in countries where routine surgical sterilisation is banned, the guidelines explore several alternatives:

Hormonal Downregulation: Using GnRH agonists (eg., deslorelin, available in New Zealand as Suprelorin) or reproductive steroid hormones to provide reversible infertility. Deslorelin is discussed in detail, noting its effects and potential side effects such as subclinical ovarian or uterine conditions.

Immuno-Contraceptives: GnRH vaccinations offer temporary infertility but require multiple injections and are not widely available (not available in New Zealand).

Chemical Castration: Involves intratesticular or intraepididymal injections to induce azoospermia, although long-term safety and efficacy studies are lacking (not known to be available in New Zealand).

Gene Therapy: An emerging field with potential future applications, involving techniques like RNA interference and CRISPR/Cas9 (not available in New Zealand).

Health Benefits and Risks of Gonadectomy

The guidelines present a balanced view of gonadectomy (removal of ovaries or testicles), considering individual cases based on breed, lifestyle, and health risks.

Female Dogs: Gonadectomy can prevent diseases of the genital organs and unwanted pregnancies, and reduce the risk of mammary tumours when performed before the second heat. However, it can increase the risk of certain cancers, urinary incontinence, and behavioural issues. If done, the optimal age for gonadectomy is generally after the first or second heat, requiring careful evaluation.

Male Dogs: Gonadectomy prevents reproductive organ diseases and conditions like benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH) and prostatitis. It can treat perianal adenomas and prevent urethral prolapse rupture but may increase the risk of prostate gland neoplasia, certain cancers, joint issues, and behavioural changes. A trial with a long-acting GnRH agonist is recommended before irreversible orchiectomy in the case of behavioural issues.

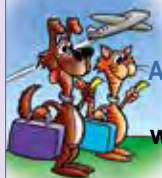
Gonadectomy causes an irreversible loss of reproductive hormones, leading to a permanent increase in blood concentrations of luteinising hormone (LH) and follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH). The impact of persistently elevated levels of LH and FSH is under investigation. By performing a hysterectomy in female dogs, they can no longer become pregnant but will still have physiologically normal levels of circulating hormones, reducing the risk of diseases associated with gonadectomy. Similarly, performing a vasectomy in male dogs keeps hormone levels normal without the ability to fertilise ova. It is anticipated that these sterilisation surgeries will become more common as more is learned about the link between certain diseases and gonadectomy, balancing population control with individual dog health.





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Kennel Names

Registration Regulations now require all new Kennel names granted to be listed in *NZ Dog World*. Members have the right to object to any name granted up till the end of the month of publication. If an objection is found to be justified the new name will be cancelled and an alternative issued. Once the time for objections has expired and no objections are received the name is automatically confirmed. Any objection must be in writing stating the reasons and received by the Director/Secretary on or before the last day of the month.

**New Registered Kennel Names
from 19/07/2024 until 16/08/2024**

AYRBROOK, DELTARIDGE, ELCARIM,
MAHUIKA, OBLOCK, STARMAGIC,
WALFORD, WESTGOLDS

Recent Exports

Exported between

20 July 2024 – 30 August 2024

Akita (Australia)

Beagle (Hawaii)

Biewer Terrier (Australia)

German Spitz (Mittel) (Australia)

Golden Retriever (Australia)

Dachshund (Min Smooth Haired) (Aust)

Kerry Blue Terriers (Australia) x 2

Labrador Retriever (Singapore)

Norwich Terrier (Australia)

Norwich Terrier (Singapore)

Welsh Springer Spaniel (Australia)

LITTERS

Notice: Publication of these notices is on the basis that a Litter Notification has been received by Dogs New Zealand at the closing date of this column, usually the 1st of the month preceding publication. Publication in this magazine is no guarantee that the dog can or will be registered with Dogs New Zealand. Registration is a separate procedure and will not necessarily be completed at the date of sale of a puppy. Purchasers of dogs should obtain a written undertaking from breeders that the puppy being purchased is or will be registered with Dogs New Zealand and will be transferred by the breeder into the name of the purchaser within 14 days of the date of purchase.

SWEDISH VALLHUND

OSUNO A TOLKIEN TAIL-OSUNO BATTLE
BORN 12/05/2024 3D/3B Breeder: A
Lawrie, 122 Tawa Road, RD1, Kumeu 0891.
E: osunokennel@gmail.com

BORDER COLLIE

HURRICANEQUEENOFKARMERA-PALLADIUM
RANGER AT LONGROYD 17/07/2024
4D/4B Breeder: B Pilkinton, 2420 SH30,
RD2, Whakatane 3192. Ph: 027 287 3946.
E: bronwyn.pilkinton@gmail.com

GERMAN SHEPHERDDOG (STOCK COAT)

NALA OF ASHMOOR-SAROLTA LTD EDITION
03/08/2024 6D/5B Breeder: L Law, 6033
SH12, RD2, Kaikohe 0472. Ph: 021 934 841.
E: lorrainelaw2@hotmail.com

GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER

BROADBENTS WHAEA-BRELSH ZEUS
16/07/2024 4D/4B Breeder: D Trowbridge, 49
Neighbours St, Waimangaroa, Westport 7891.
Ph: (03) 789-9886. E: d.tgsp@y7mail.com

GOLDEN RETRIEVER

SPEYSIDE WALTZEN INTO BATTLE-JAMBRA
CRUISING IN MY BENTLY 22/07/2024 8D/3B
Breeder: D Logie, 162 Gladstone Road, RD1,
Levin 5571. Ph: (06) 367-3860.
E: debrajanes@xtra.co.nz

Reminder:

Update Your Registry Contact Details

Over the next month, can you please check we have your correct details?

You can contact **Suzy** on (04) 910-1520 to check or update the Registry details, or email enquiries@dogsnz.org.nz.

You can also log onto the Dogs New Zealand website

(www.dogsnz.org.nz) using your membership number and password. If you can't remember yours, contact Suzy.






Once you're logged on, click on 'my details' and then 'change details'.

This will send an email to Suzy who will update the Registry accordingly.



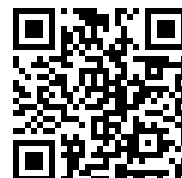


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