

dogtales



2009 | Newsletter

Welcome to dogtales, the official newsletter for the Dogs' Homes of Tasmania, operated by the Tasmanian Canine Defence League. We are an animal welfare organisation devoted to dogs; providing accommodation, food and veterinary care to stray, lost, unwanted and abandoned dogs in this state. Our absolute delight is when a dog or puppy is re-united with their family and when a dog or puppy is adopted into a caring home for his or her lifetime.

We hope you enjoy our 2009 edition.

www.dogshomesoftas.com.au



This is Mack, he is a beautiful 13 year old who has been in our care this year.

Read Mack's story on page two.

From the President

In volatile and uncertain economic times we are well aware of our own vulnerability. We rely heavily on public support particularly financial support to continue our work with stray, lost and abandoned dogs. The TCDL asks that current members continue their membership and any dog lovers consider becoming a member. We are always in great need of donations and bequests and I would urge all readers to do all they can to support our work.

On 26th February, our Education Centre at the Hobart Dogs' Home was opened by our patron, Fran Bladel, and the mayors from Clarence, Glenorchy and Hobart, Ald Jock Campbell, Ald Adriana Taylor and Ald Rob Valentine. This is a significant milestone for the TCDL and reflects our commitment to the "Humane Beings Program" and education generally. Our sincere thanks to Anne Boxhall, the creator of this program for driving this project forward and for her ongoing expertise in delivering the program to children from kindergarten to school year twelve. All indications are that the program is extremely well received and has a bright future.

We are pleased to welcome Katrina McDonald as our new General Manager. Katrina has a long history with the TCDL as a former council member and as GM has had a major beneficial



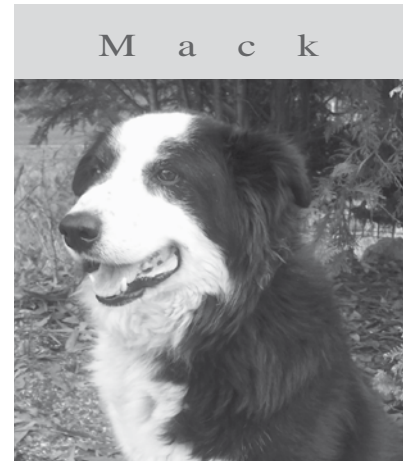
impact on staff morale and on the credibility of this organisation with municipal councils and other stakeholders. One of Katrina's initiatives has been to create an Office Manager position to which Dianna Aldoni was appointed. Di also brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in her field of administration. These appointments have provided a much needed boost to the organisation. Following the resignation of Kerrie Brennan as Southern Regional Manager, Alan Norris was appointed to this position. Alan has 18 years experience working with animals plus considerable skill and expertise in managing staff. I would like to

thank them all for their very hard work and the valuable contribution they make to the welfare services we provide to Tasmanian dogs.

At the end of the 2007-2008 Financial Year we received a very generous donation from a long term supporter who wishes to remain anonymous. The TCDL Council decided that 80% of this donation would be spent on our Burnie and Devonport Dogs' Homes and a number of projects have been completed as part of this expenditure. These include the much needed upgrading of kennels at the Devonport Home and moisture control by the removal of a dirt bank against adoption kennel walls at the Burnie Home (see photo top left). Other major infrastructure upgrades at the Devonport Home require contributions from the Councils using this facility as their Pound; meetings have taken place to progress this.

Finally, may I again thank all the good people who support us through their donations, volunteer work or their dedication and hard work as a staff member.

Geoff Clarke
President



Mack was 13 years old and suffering with arthritis when his family surrendered him to the Burnie Dogs' Home. He had a wonderful nature and the staff wanted to give him every opportunity for a new home.

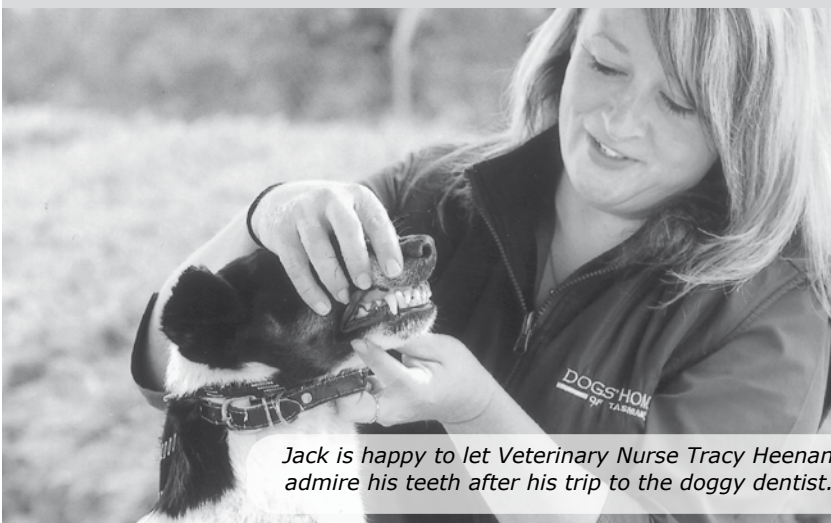
As no one had shown any interest in adopting him after six weeks, he was transferred to the Devonport Dogs' Home to see if his luck changed. Regional Manager, Caroline Dare, arranged for his photo to appear in the Devonport Times to maximise his chances of finding a home.

After another four weeks, still no one had shown any interest in adopting Mack. Staff had growing concerns about his arthritis and were contemplating the next move.

Then, a couple came to the Home and met Mack. The staff explained their concerns regarding his health. These lovely people explained why they wanted to adopt Mack. They had just lost their 13 year old Boarder Collie to cancer and said they wanted to give Mack happiness for the last years of his life and it would also help them with the loss of their beloved Boarder Collie.

The couple spoke to the vet at length about Mack's arthritis. They also told staff that for the last couple of years, their Boarder Collie had been receiving treatment for arthritis and as far as they were concerned, it would be like picking up where they left off before their loss. Mack's new family has told us that he has settled in really well and he's a real 'smoocher'.

Doggy Dentistry



Jack is happy to let Veterinary Nurse Tracy Heenan admire his teeth after his trip to the doggy dentist.

When a dog is anaesthetised to be desexed, it is a perfect opportunity to help the dog in other ways such as dental health. Until recently, dogs in need of dental work at Hobart Dogs' Home were sent to private veterinary practices which was time consuming and expensive. Donations and the proceeds from a raffle have resulted in the necessary dental equipment to be purchased, enabling a saving of time and money but best of all; it makes dental procedures less traumatic for our dogs.

Photo courtesy of the Mercury

Education Centre Official Opening

The official opening of the Education Centre was a wonderful celebration. The occasion was shared with official guests and friends in the David Brown Exercise Yard where the Centre is located. Proceedings commenced with our Education Officer, Anne Boxhall, introducing special guests James Lleonart and his adopted Dogs' Home dog Gizzy. James read a poem *I love that dog* (see back page). President Geoff Clarke welcomed guests, outlined the use of the Centre and expressed thanks to those who had contributed. The mayors of Clarence, Glenorchy and Hobart, Ald Jock Campbell, Ald Adriana Taylor and Lord Mayor Rob Valentine each spoke of the importance of education. TCDL Patron, Fran Bladel, then declared the Centre open. The ribbon was cut by the Mayors and our President. Guests moved inside the new building to enjoy delicious refreshments provided by our auxiliary.



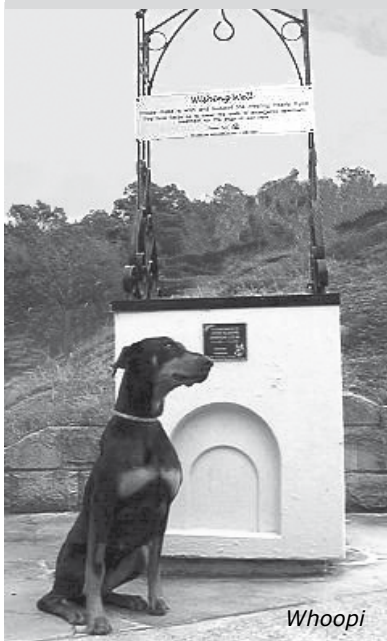
Food is a Favourite



Sadie, waiting for adoption, is sitting pretty on some donated food.

We are indebted to those who have donated dog food; the dogs are enjoying every mouthful! There are many healthy appetites at our three Dogs' Homes and gifts of dry or tinned food are always very much appreciated.

Wishing for more Adoptions



Whoopi

Everyone who works for and supports our organisation would share one wish, that every dog has a caring home. At any one time, there are 65 to 95 dogs ready and waiting to be adopted at our three Dogs' Homes. At this time of the year, we particularly ask those who are able, to give one of these beautiful dogs a caring home for their lifetime.

Before deciding to adopt a dog or puppy, please ensure you are able to afford to keep, feed and provide veterinary care for your dog, have the time to exercise and meet their

needs for company and that your fences and gates are adequate to keep your dog safe. Please see our webpage for other issues to consider.

If you proceed to the next stage and go to the Dogs' Home, take your time; we don't mind how many times you visit us to ensure you and your new family member are right for each other. Do talk to staff for information and advice.

When you have chosen your dog, or as sometimes happens, your new dog chooses you; you will receive helpful information on feeding, care, registration etc.

The standard fee for adopting a dog is \$230.00 and comprises of –

- Vet check, vaccination, worming, flea treatment
- Desexing
- Microchipping

The fee to adopt Senior Dogs is less than the standard fee.

Remember that the first few days can be a very stressful time for your new family member as they adjust to new routines. This could take time so be kind, patient, calm and consistent. Ignore unwanted behaviours and reward and praise good behaviours.

Parvovirus

Parvovirus is a canine disease that is preventable by vaccination. We urge everyone with an unvaccinated dog to discuss vaccination for this, and other preventable diseases with a veterinarian as soon as possible. If all dogs were vaccinated, we could see an end to the suffering caused by terrible, life threatening diseases.

Niadel Dog School

Niadel Dog School holds two classes each Sunday, one for beginners and one for more advanced dogs. Mererid Roberts formed the School and has been the teacher since 1972. Rain or shine, Mererid arrives at the clearing on the Domain, off Davies Avenue, opposite the Dog Exercise Area, at 1.30pm. Her dedication to dogs and their learning is particularly appreciated by the many adopted Dogs' Home dogs and their families who attend the classes. Attendees donate a gold coin at each class and at the end of each year, all the donations are forwarded to the Dogs' Home. Last year an incredible \$1,460.00 was received, this helps to support the dogs still resident at the Dogs' Home.



After school line-up from left Deacon, Monty, Cleo, Paris, Bonnie-Lass with Mererid, Polly, all adopted from the Hobart Dogs' Home. Chrisma, and Marlin who was adopted from the Burnie Dogs' Home.

Thank you KimPen Pang for assisting with dogtales photos.

Tim's cards



Photo courtesy of the Mercury

Tim showing Saus some of his cards.

Tim Calwell-Browne and his brother Asher are volunteer dog walkers. Tim, who has Down syndrome, has a great love of dogs and is also a keen drawer. Eleven of his drawings have been selected and professionally printed into greeting cards to raise funds for the Dogs' Homes. The cards are blank inside and suitable for any occasion. Tim's cards can be viewed and purchased on line at www.timscards.org or at selected outlets.

We Need You

As the TCDL and Dogs' Homes of Tasmania move towards 2010, marking 60 years of working for dogs, we will reflect on the achievements in dog welfare in Tasmania during that time and what still remains to be done to achieve our aim "that there be no stray, unwanted and abandoned dogs". Without the support of members, donors and volunteers, our organisation could not have assisted the many thousands of dogs who have come into our care during this very long time.

Please help us to continue this vital work by making a donation,

applying for or renewing your membership or becoming a Friend of the Dogs' Homes. Other ways of contributing are listed on our Subscription and Donation Form. Kindly forward the form or a letter with your details and how you would like to support our work, together with your remittance to

**Dogs' Homes of Tasmania
PO Box 7 Lindisfarne, Tas. 7015**

If you would like to contact us for other ideas on supporting the Dogs' Homes, please see our contact details on the back page.

Donations are tax deductible

Kiarra, kitten and Sophia

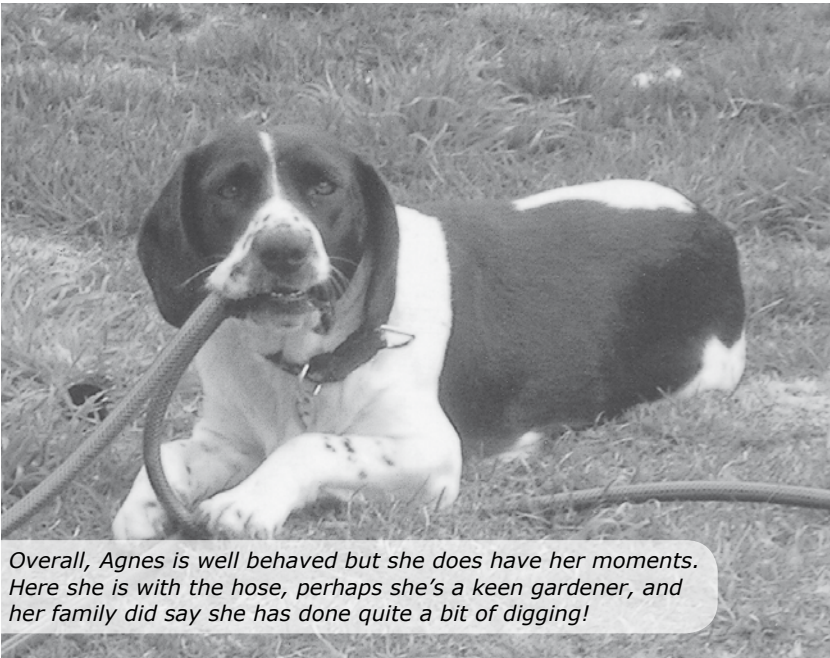
Kiarra, a Mastiff adopted from us earlier in the year has been in to visit us many times since her adoption. She has a kitten playmate that she shares her bed with. Kiarra and the kitten both came into the Hobart Dogs Home to find another dog companion. Kiarra and the kitten adopted Sophia, a brindle Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

Every picture has a tail



Gordon Elder is a volunteer with a difference; he volunteers his photographic skills for our dogs.

Gordon's photos appear on our website and thanks to his efforts, and those of Job Futures Tasmania who maintain our website, many of our dogs have found caring homes. Gordon's technique is to make a sound like a buzzing bee and while the dogs are looking at him intently, wondering what it could be, he takes their photo. Here Gordon is taking a photo of Taj.



Overall, Agnes is well behaved but she does have her moments. Here she is with the hose, perhaps she's a keen gardener, and her family did say she has done quite a bit of digging!

Agnes

After Agnes was adopted from the Devonport Dogs' Home, we received a letter from her family and we would like to share some of it with you... "Agnes has been with me now for two months but it feels like she has been here forever. She has settled in beautifully and made herself quite at home, especially on my bed! She loves going for her morning walk, her favourite spots are the beach and an enclosed off-lead walking park set in the bush. She runs and runs and then sleeps all day. Thanks for taking such good care of her while she was with you."



Taj

Taj is a typical, active Boarder Collie. She has a sweet nature and gets on well with other dogs. The unusual thing about Taj's stay with us is that she has resided at our Dogs' Homes in Burnie, Devonport and Hobart; she has been transferred in our best efforts to find her a family of her own. Now, over twelve month's of age, Taj has spent almost half of her life with us. Check the webpage and see if she is still awaiting adoption.

Commendations and Blessings

The most recent recipients of our Canine Commendation Awards were: - Canine Skye Pepper for her outstanding loyalty in rendering assistance to her injured master. Jonathon Douglas, in recognition of his commitment to the successful rescue of dog Lilly. The Dog Listeners, founded by Jan Fennell (UK), whose methodology, strengthens the bonds between people and dogs through compassionate interaction and training.

The next Canine Commendations will be awarded at the Animal Service at Scots Church, Bathurst Street, Hobart on World Animal Day, 4th October 2009 at 10 o'clock. There will be a blessing of the animals at that service. Everyone is welcome to come and bring their pets.



Tony Knight, Jan's son, came to Tasmania in November, to conduct a weekend seminar on the Dog Listener technique. President Geoff Clarke presented Tony with the award.

Animals in Victoria's Fires

The tragedy of the Victorian bushfires earlier this year was far reaching. We offered our Dogs' Homes as donation points to collect funds to assist Lort Smith Animal Hospital whose vet teams attended bushfire areas daily. They also provided assistance to local animal shelters and veterinary clinics. The TCDL Council agreed a donation of \$1,000 with the TCDL Auxiliary also forwarding \$1,000. Members of the public sent a total of \$1,848 for us to pass on, making a total of \$3,848 being sent to Lort Smith Animal Hospital to help the animals.

Excerpt from *I Love That Dog*

By *Connie Kaldor*

I love that dog, the way he runs up to me when I call.
The way he chases his favourite red rubber ball
I love that dog

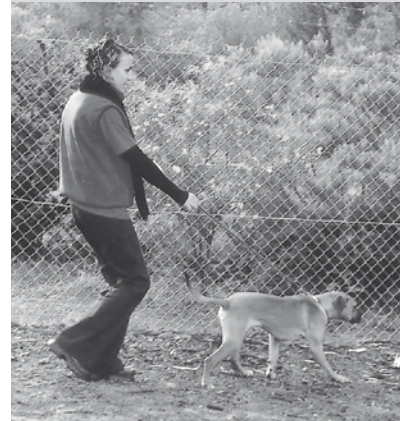
I love that dog, the way he puts his wet nose in my hand.
And when I tell him my problems, he always understands
I love that dog.

I love that dog, the way he catches a Frisbee as he leaps
The way his eyes and paws flutter as he sleeps
I love that dog

And on those days when it seems
That I haven't got a friend
He's so pleased to see me that
He wags his whole back end

I love that dog, the way he smiles when I pat his head.
The way he curls up and snores some nights by my bed
I love that dog.

Walking our Dogs



Hobart, Burnie and Devonport Dogs' Homes have caring volunteers who walk our dogs... would you like to join them? Our dedicated walkers provide much needed exercise for the dogs as they enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of walking the bush in and around our homes. Phone the Dogs' Home nearest to you for more information.

2010 Dogs' Homes Calendar

Our 60th anniversary is the reason to celebrate with a 'special' edition calendar for 2010. We produce a calendar each year featuring dogs adopted from our three Dogs' Homes. The family of the dog whose photo is chosen for the cover receives a water colour portrait of their dog, painted by artist David Bishop. If you have a Dogs' Home dog, we invite you to send a photo to us with your dog's name, from which home your dog was adopted together with your name and address by 24th July.

Photos may be emailed to cbarryz@bigpond.com.au or posted to P O Box 7 Lindisfarne Tas. 7015. We cannot guarantee that all photos received will be included in the calendar. The calendars will be on sale from October at our three Dogs' Homes and selected outlets for \$10.00 each. Funds raised from the sales directly support our Dogs' Homes.

Lost & Found

***If you have lost your dog,
or found a dog, please
phone your nearest Dogs'
Home promptly to give us
the best chance to re-unite
dogs with their families.***

C O N T A C T D E T A I L S

Please send all subscription and donations to P O Box 7 Lindisfarne Tas. 7015.
To come and visit us we are at

Hobart

101 Scotts Road Risdon Vale
Phone 6243 5177
or email
hobart@dogshomesoftas.com.au

Devonport

Spreyton Park Racecourse
Phone 6427 2178
or email
devonport@dogshomesoftas.com.au

Burnie

170 Stowport Road
Phone 6431 6199
or email
burnie@dogshomesoftas.com.au

To contact our administration office – Phone 6243 9012 or email us at office@dogshomesoftas.com.au

Visit us on www.dogshomesoftas.com.au for more information.