



Dogs' Homes of Tasmania

Operated by the Tasmanian Canine Defence League.
Locations at Hobart, Devonport, & Burnie.

Post Office Box 7
Lindisfarne TAS 7015

www.dogshomesoftas.com.au

Love this dogshome

Canine Connections ~ Working Dogs



Question - what do border collies, kelpies, cattle dogs and german shepherds all have in common?
Answer - if you don't find jobs for these dogs, they'll find their own! These breeds belong to the group known as working dogs. Most working dogs need a job to do that will challenge their considerable physical and mental abilities. Just watch collies or kelpies working sheep at sheepdog trials and it becomes obvious that these dogs are tough, tireless, determined and talented workers.

Without sufficient mental stimulation, daily exercise and training, many working dogs feel compelled to 'take over' and begin work projects of their own. For example, removing the washing from the line, redesigning the garden or their very own vocal neighbourhood watch program may all seem good options for a frustrated or bored dog left to its own devices in the backyard.

For many working dogs, mental stimulation and companionship with their humans is just as important and in some cases more important than physical exercise. When busy people find themselves unable to provide for high-need breeds such as border collies, unwanted behaviours like hyperactivity, digging, chewing, chasing and other obsessive behaviours can become a problem. The key thing is that these dogs need some sort of 'job' to do. It could be dog training classes, agility, tracking, flyball, learning tricks or working stock or ideally a combination of these.

Researching preferred breeds is an important job for any prospective dog owner. For those thinking about adding a border collie, kelpie, cattle dog or shepherd to their household, check out the many excellent books and web sites such as www.bordercollie.org/general.html for information on the special needs of these dogs. The real question is.....would I have the time, stamina and opportunity to meet the high needs of my working dog?

Burnie Dogs' Home

**170 Stowport Rd.,
Burnie TAS 7320**

Ph: (03) 6431 6199

Devonport Dogs' Home

**Spreyton Park Racecourse
Devonport TAS 7310**

Ph: (03) 6427 2178

Hobart Dogs' Home

**101 Scotts Rd.,
Risdon Vale TAS 7016**

Ph: (03) 6243 5177

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