



WALKABOUT

May 2009
Newsletter No 72

www.dogwalkinghobart.info

EDITORIAL

Aft an absence of some years, probably about two I guess, I am finding it a little difficult to get back into the swing of things hence the rather late date for this Newsletter. My apologies for that but rest assured I promise to do better in the future. Having been out of things for such a long time I am amazed at how much I have forgotten about this editorship thing. What to talk about? Well, firstly, Chris and I with Sally and Freddy in company with Sheila Reynolds with Lizzie went to the RSPCA Million Paws Walk and what an interesting day it was too. The dogs had an absolute ball and screamed their heads whilst they towed us at breakneck speed from the car to the venue. We assumed it was the venue by the number of canines and people milling around as there was nary a sign or official to advise us of were to go. By a process somewhat akin to osmosis we finally found an official at a trestle carefully placed to ensure maximum difficulty in finding them. Having pre-booked we already had our I.D. wristband on but were airily informed that when we tried to show them that "that's o.k., just don't worry about that". Why did we bother? We could have got in for free. Oh well! This is all done in a huge shed full of dogs and people and a noise level like a railway station at peak hour. The dogs were absolutely marvellous and took it all with aplomb much better than us. To continue the tale of disorganization I faintly heard the P.A. system mutter something about the walk was commencing shortly. And where was the starting point? Ah, no sign but that mass of dogs and humans out on the racetrack must be where we go and so indeed it was! The walk was lovely, the dogs and people invariably cheerful and friendly and the weather was beautiful even if we didn't know where to go, just follow the herd with perhaps a little creative adjustments to the route to please ourselves. We enjoyed the day but were disappointed with the poor (nil) organization and lack of direction.

And now for something entirely different!

This is a tale of love for ones pet taken to extreme and is most definitely not to be recommended to anyone.

This is a story I saw in the Mercury last week and although it really isn't funny it has a certain black humour about it.

It appears that this gentleman in an outer suburb of Melbourne was in the habit of rocking his dog to sleep each night – he spoke of his dog as a "child substitute". Anyway he was going through his usual ritual one night and had just got Fido (not his real name) when his partner came into the room and had a go at him over some trivial matter and managed to wake the dog up, horrors. Our hero kept his cool and took Fido from the room and calmed it down out in the laundry. He then removed his dressing gown cord, returned to his partner and proceeded to strangle her with the cord. One doesn't wake up Fido and get away with it that easily. Having finished the task our hero repaired to the local pub presumably to celebrate. After getting a skinful he then went to his neighbourhood brothel for a bit of T.L.C. This boy has certainly got his priorities in order. Back home to hearth and home and presumably a dreamless sleep. Partner still where he had left her. After a few days, however, the corpus began to become a little malodorous which meant something had to be done – we can't upset Fido can we? First move is to place the hound in a pet's retreat so that it doesn't have to see any of the nasty bits. Back home it is out with the trusty shovel and a bit of excavation in the back yard and into the ensuring hole the deceased is place with due reverence or good riddance whatever takes your fancy. I have forgotten how the Fuzz finally collared him but perhaps a neighbour became a little suspicious and dobbed him in. He is now being accommodated at Her Majesties Pleasure and will remain in the slammer for some considerable time. Whilst we can only approve of people who care and love their dogs we feel this is taking things just a little to far, after all the dog is now alone which isn't very thoughtful of him is it?

KDWA 2009-2010 MEMBERSHIP FEES & RENEWAL.

The KDWA Committee has decided that the annual fee for Family membership will be reduced for the 2009-2010 financial year, from \$25 to \$20 , and the fee for single membership will be held at \$15. We hope that this will help attract additional membership. And the logical follow on from that bit of information is that membership renewals are coming up once again. Enclosed with this newsletter is the renewal form for your attention. If you could send your payment in as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated. All the necessary information as to where to send your fee is on the enclosed renewal form. Many thanks for you attention to this important task.

PEPPERMINT BAY CRUISE OFFER

We have just received a letter from Hobart Cruises with information regarding their offer of half price cruises on their catamaran to Peppermint Bay. This offer is to Community and Recreation groups and is priced at \$54 instead of the normal \$108. It appears from the promotional material we have that lunch onboard is included in the deal. The trip takes about 4hours return plus an hour at Peppermint Bay. From personal experience I can say that the trips are efficiently run and the crew of the vessel invariably cheerful. If anyone is interested in being involved in a group booking please contact any of the committee members and let them know of your interest. This offer is open until Christmas and we can redeem it as many times as we like. In addition, depending on the numbers we have in a group the organization will receive a voucher ranging on value from \$100 to \$200 that we can use at any fundraising activity we run.

INTERNATIONAL DAY of the DOG

Oh ye of little faith! Having organized a recent newcomer to Kingborough to come to this event at Dru Point with reps from the Dogs Home the weather forecast decreed it would be raining all morning. Not even showers but rain!

Despite the forecast we were delighted to see so many members turn up with their dogs (we counted well over 20 dogs) and we must have all been very good over the last week because no rain came and we all enjoyed the social interaction. The Presidents dog, Sweep, has become a flirt with all other dogs of either sex and caused considerable confusion.

Most of you will have seen the photos and comments in the Mercury – Lisel insists she normally looks far more welcoming than the picture shows but I guess that is typical of the fairer sex.



The happy throng



The happy couple

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

These are due in October and when we know who is standing we would like to check what their views are regarding dogs and their control. Hopefully we can advise members regarding this and hopefully we can get more dog friendly Councillors.

We could do with some help on this exercise so if any member has some expertise and would be prepared to donate some time it would be much appreciated – contact Tony on 6229 5391 or email awalch@bigpond.net.au

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to Cynthia and Robin Coffey who have just joined our merry band of dog lovers. It is great to have you join our group and we look forward to a long and happy relationship. If you would like to come to any of the committee meetings you are both very welcome and I can assure you that no overt efforts will be made to co-opt you onto the committee – at least not on the first visit.

GARAGE SALE

A change of plan; this used to be a Car Boot sale but has metamorphosed into, as you can see, a Garage Sale. The “garage” is the large shed at 139 Tinderbox Road and has most kindly been lent to the association for this event. A much more relaxed venue and with plenty of room to display the “goodies” that you are all going to find hidden in the darker recesses of your dwellings. So, get with it and have a good scrounge and see what you can donate to the good cause. We will be happy to accept almost anything provided it is legal e.g. books, toys, household items, collectables, clean clothing etc. If you have anything please contact any of the committee or ring Chris Needham or Carl Mann on 6229 4361. The sale will be held on Saturday the 3rd of October and we can store your donations prior to that date.

Top Dog

6223 5797

- ◆ Dog Grooming
- ◆ Self-serve Bath
- ◆ Dog Essentials
- ◆ Vet Approved Food
- ◆ Leading Brands
- ◆ Stylish Accessories
- ◆ Fun Toys & Treats

DOGUE  
I FuzzYard **PUPPIA**

466 Macquarie Street, S. Hobart

Your One Stop Dog Shop 

Paid advertisement.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Once again we will be featuring a “Letters to the editor” column, which will give everyone to opportunity to have their say and get into print. Naturally the Editor, me, reserves the right to include or reject any material submitted. We can’t have the natives offended by some of the more outlandish ideas some of you might come up with and we certainly can’t have any of erstwhile councillors insulted can we? It is of course; amazing what can be said if one is sufficiently subtle isn’t it? And, I might add, I am fairly liberal in what I will accept, just ask Tony. That said lets be receiving your best efforts.

ODDMENTS

This new column is an effort on my part to fill up the remaining space being a little short of copy (hint, refer to the previous article to get the message). Seriously though I was amazed to read in today’s paper of the number of dogs that did a runner last weekend during a cracker night. According to Ann Boxhall some 41 dogs ended up in the Hobart Dogs Home on Sunday and

Monday and on Tuesday they still had 26 waiting to be reclaimed. Ann said they knew of at least two dogs killed by cars on the roads. A warning to us all to extra vigilant during fireworks displays and make doubly sure that our best friend is safely locked up and well out of harms way.

EVENT CALENDAR

May. 24th Sunday

Peter Murrell Reserve. Meet in the car park off Burwood Drive at 9-00am. Tony Walch will be leading this great walk around our old favourite which takes approx. 90 minutes or for those pressed for time you may pull out at various points along the circuit. Bring morning tea not forgetting our best friend(s) refreshments.

June 20th Saturday

Sports Centre Car Park. Meet at 2-00pm at the main car park at the Sports Centre, Kingston View Drive. The walk will include an on lead exploration around this area and an off lead run-around on the new off lead dog exercise area. Leader will be Mary Deacon.

July 18th Saturday

Junction Summerleas Rd./Huon Highway. Meet at 9-30am at the Summerleas Rd/ Huon Highway cross roads (on the left hand side nearest Kingston. Felicity Walch will be leading this walk to Pickett Hill and return.

Call Tony or Felicity on 6229 5391 for more information.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information please contact **KDWA** members or come to a monthly **KDWA** meeting held on the second Wednesday of each month. All meetings commence at 7:30 pm and are held at the **KINGSTON LIBRARY. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH JUNE 2009.**

Refreshments provided – Members and Guests welcome

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