

Beardie Bulletin

The Bearded Collie Club of Gauteng—November 2008

Chairman's Message

Dear Beardie Friends,

Wow, it's almost Christmas; just where has this year gone? For some of us, it has been another year of showing, and time for a well deserved rest for dogs and their "hoomins". For all of us, perhaps we will have some extra time on hand now, with holidays on the horizon, for extra long doggy walks!

Beardies have continued to perform so well in both the breed ring and in the agility ring during 2008. It is really nice to have Beardies participating

in agility again, as they have been absent for some time, and the Shaggies are certainly keeping their Border Collie counterparts on their toes.

Please see the details in this issue of our annual Christmas get together, which many of us look forward to; we hope to see some new faces at this years event .

We wish Beardie lovers everywhere a wonderful Beardie filled Christmas and 2009.

Regards
Eileen Ashton
Chairperson

Beardie Club Championship Show 2008 Results

Best in Show

Ch Ashvale Denver's Dream at Westmilwunda
- K Furk & E Ashton



Reserve Best in Show Ch Ashvale one Sweet Dream—Ashton/Orsmond



November

Above is the photograph of Jake taken for the very first Pets As Therapy calendar. Jake and Jethro have been P.A.T. Visiting Dogs for about a year and a half now and are still enjoying the work they do. If you would like to support P.A.T. - or find out more about what they do - information and calendars are available at www.pat.org.za/CalendarOrders.html.



Best Puppy in Show—Breaksea Fallen Angel— G Burfitt/Ashton

Best SA Bred in Show—Westmilwunda Ocean Breeze—K Furk

Best Veteran in Show—Ch Scottsdale Highlight for Ashvale - Ashton

Capetown News by Kathy Hindon

In the last Beardie Newsletter I commented that “Jake has continued working at agility at which he has loads of drive, ability and potential (now if we can just conquer those weave poles and continue to improve on the recall he might EVENTUALLY catch up to his cousin Willow!)” Well, he hasn’t yet caught up to Willow, in part because he is still working on perfecting the weave poles. He is unpredictable, doing them accurately at times and then at others messing about in true Jake style!

The Beginning

I had always wanted to do agility with Jake because I knew he’d enjoy it and he has a very high drive for balls and anything that squeaks. However, we only started training when he was already over 2 years old because our dog training club will not allow dogs without a reliable recall to train and Jake had pretty much zero recall at the time. Then Angela told me about a small club

she’d been invited to help start and suggested that we join which we duly did. The trainer has a bird chasing Border Collie who had had similar recall problems to Jake, so she understood perfectly! (Although from time to time even her patience was sorely tested by Jake’s high jinks).

When we started training, Jake would go over 1 jump, get his toy as a reward and then hightail it off into the distance, squeaky toy firmly in his mouth until all we could see of him in the bottom paddock was the tip of his tail and hear the faint squeak of his toy. We gradually, over the weeks and months, got him to go over more and more obstacles until he eventually managed an entire course without him disappearing into the distance. These days he will come when he is called, making a wide circle before he does of course, but he comes back!!! He is almost convinced that staying with me on course is more fun than running away and I’m working on getting him

completely convinced!

-Two years later

We have taken part in a few agility competitions and Jake has improved greatly since the first one where he left the course to inspect the plants on one occasion and to investigate a barking dog and say hi to Willow on the other. This last competition he came second in his class, managing to beat several other more experienced dogs (and handlers!!). He came in at 56 seconds, 7.8 seconds after the first dog and well within the course time of 77 seconds. This might not sound that wonderful to you, but he was one of only 4 dogs not to eliminate, out of 12 dogs in his class and for us this is HUGE progress!

Ps. Huge Congratulations to Katy & Jake who came 2nd and 3rd in 2 competitions recently and earned their first trophies!

Congratulations to.....

Beardie of the year

Ch Scottsdale Ocean Drive at Ashvale Gabriel on becoming the Top Herding Dog 2008 in both the Kusa and Animal Talk ratings.



Beardie Bitch of the Year

Ch Westmilwunda Ocean Mist “Calico” owned by Karen Furk



Beardie Puppy of the year

Breaksea Fallen Angel for Ashvale (Imp UK) “Jordache” owned by Eileen Ashton



GIARDIA—A very nasty parasite—Article by Jackie Mackenzie

GIARDIA can be quite frightening to the pet owner that encounters it for the first time. It is a very nasty parasite, it lasts a long time and dogs rarely get rid of it all.

Giardia are protozoa (one-celled organisms) that live in the small intestine of dogs and cats. Infection with Giardia is called 'giardiasis.' There are many things we do not know about this parasite and experts are divided on how many species of Giardia there are and which ones affect animals.

The usual sign of Giardia infection is diarrhoea - acute, intermittent, or chronic. Usually the infected animal will not lose its appetite, but it may lose weight. The faeces are often abnormal - pale and with a bad odour - and appearing greasy. In the intestine, Giardia prevents proper absorption of nutrients, damages the delicate intestinal lining and interferes with digestion.

Some dogs are more sensitive to Giardia than others and end up with more colony growths of this parasite. It all depends on the dog's immune system, as well as the level of exposure and the number of parasites it has ingested into its system.

WHERE TO THEY GET IT?

Research has shown that rescue dogs coming from shelters, or those who are strays, most likely have Giardia already in their systems, as do all

dogs. It only becomes a problem when they develop classic symptoms such as diarrhoea and vomiting, when the colonies of Giardia become too large in their systems from additional exposure.

Exposure comes from dogs drinking from puddles of standing water or through faecal matter from other animals, which may somehow end up in water they may be drinking - ie. dogs clean themselves, paws, rear, etc. with their tongues, then drink from a community drinking dish.

The giardia cysts can live several weeks to months outside the host in wet, cold environments. So lawns, parks, kennels and other areas contaminated with animal faeces can be a source of infection for your pet. Bird baths and ditch water are also possible sources and it can also be passed on through your pet eating the faeces of other animals - rabbits, deer, mice, rats, etc.

TREATMENT

If you suspect that your pet has Giardia, you must consult your vet immediately to start treatment. Panacur is the best for treating Giardia, according to parasitologists in the USA. The Metronidazole (Flagyl), while an anaerobic antibiotic, will treat any potential secondary infection from the parasites, but will not completely kill Giardia. As for the Panacur creating diarrhoea, it

does initially, as it eliminates the Giardia colonies. The body's natural response to parasites and illnesses is to flush them out of the system as quickly as possible. If an animal has diarrhoea while on the Panacur, it doesn't mean the Panacur is not working. It simply means their system is eliminating the colonies of Giardia quickly.

That is why three doses of Panacur are needed to rid of Giardia. It is also a good idea to treat with the initial round of Panacur, then repeat this in a month's time. This takes care of all the life stages of Giardia.

PREVENTION

Keep water dishes constantly clean, with fresh water, and insure your pet does not drink out of puddles or walk through standing water. Sterilising all bones, toys and beds is also very important to ensure your animal is not re-infected. Regular bathing to keep them sanitary during this time of recovery is also important.

In short, Giardia is a very nasty parasite and if you suspect that your dog may be infected, consult your vet immediately.

Keeping all waste picked up, items washed and sterilised and using Panacur seems to be the only proven way to fight it.

Finger Lickin' Good..... New Pedigree Ambassador

Holly, owned by Nicola Booth is the proud new Pedigree ambassador, and now appearing on the packaging for their Senior Product. She is seen here in a more relaxed pose!



2009 Membership

Please be reminded that your membership renewal is now due and payable.
Single R50, Family R100, Life R500
Banking details—Bearded collie Club of Gauteng
, Absa Bank Branch code 632005
Account number 9062013341
Please use full name as reference

Welcome to new Members

Susan D'Ewes, Beverley Diedericks
Sally McGrath, Deborah Wiertek
Rudolph Roos

Wrapping present with Puppies

1. Gather presents, boxes, paper, etc. in middle of living room floor.
2. Get tape back from puppy.
3. Remove scissors from older dog's mouth.
4. Open box.
5. Take puppy out of box.
6. Remove tape from older dog's mouth.
7. Take scissors away from puppy.
8. Put present in box.
9. Remove present from puppy's mouth.
10. Put back in box after removing puppy from box.
11. Take scissors from older dog and sit on them.
12. Remove puppy from box and put on lid.
13. Take tape away from older dog.
14. Unroll paper & take puppy OFF box.
15. Cut paper being careful not to cut puppy's foot or nose that is getting in the way as he "helps."
16. Let puppy tear remaining paper.
17. Take puppy off box.
18. Wrap paper around box.
19. Remove puppy from box & take wrapping paper from its mouth.
20. Tell older dog to fetch the tape so he will stop stealing it.
21. Take scissors away from puppy.
22. Take tape older dog is holding.
23. Quickly tape one spot before taking scissors from older dog & sitting on them again.
24. Fend off puppy trying to steal tape & tape another spot.
25. Take bow from older dog.
26. Go get roll of wrapping paper puppy ran off with.
27. Take scissors from older dog who took them when you got up.
28. Give pen to older dog to hold so he stops licking your face.
29. Remove puppy from present & hurriedly slap tape on to hold the paper on.
30. Take now soggy bow from puppy & tape on since the sticky stuff no longer sticks.
31. Take pen from older dog, address tag & affix while puppy tries to eat pen.
32. Grab present before puppy opens it & put it away.
33. Clean up mess puppy & older dog made playing tug-of-war with remnants of wrapping paper.
34. Put away rest of wrapping supplies & tell dogs what good helpers they are.



New Champions

The following Beardies gained their conformation championship title this year :

- CH Westmilwunda Ocean Dream for Ashvale (brown dog) - E Ashton/K Furk
- CH Wesmilwunda Ocean Mist (fawn bitch) - K Furk
- Ch Ashvale Colour Me Cool of Jeanlu (blue dog) - L Orsmond/E Ashton
- Ch La Fajas Brown Norwegian Beauty of Saarsveld (brown bitch) - R Stone/D Snashall * subject to KUSA confirmation
- Ch Westmilwunda Ocean Breeze (fawn dog) - K Furk
- Ch Ashvale Carducci (blue dog) - L Dunsmore
- Ch Ashvale Heaven Sent (brown bitch) P Bruce-Brand * subject to Kusa confirmation

Club Member moves to Zambia

Club member Lindsay Dunsmore has recently re-located to Lusaka, Zambia with her two Bearded Boys Gizmo and Sitka.

Below is a picture of them exploring their new surroundings in Deepest Africa! Hope you have all settled in there now Lindsay and look forward to hearing some Bearded News from up North soon.



Dates to Remember in 2008 /9

- 7 December 2008 Beardedie Christmas party
- 28 March 2009 - Agm
- 22 June 2009 Club Championship show