



The Leonberger Club, NZ NEWSLETTER

Volume 3

September—December 2011

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From the President...

Hello everyone,

Winter has surprised most of us with dumpings of snow in unexpected places. The Leos of course remain very nonchalant about such goings on and revel in the cold temperatures whilst we humans only truly enjoy the white frosting once rugged up in our winter woollies. I'm picking a few snowmen graced some front lawns here and there and your cameras were busy recording the events. I trust our farmers out there have had but a few casualties and the rest of winter treats you all well.

I confess to sitting outside in the early hours on a couple of really frosty mornings with camera in hand to catch the antics of the dogs. They do love the cold. There's always a bit of pushing and shoving to be first to break the ice on the water in the plastic shell (*you know the old sandpit clam shell from The Warehouse*). Those sheets of ice make for great early morning crackers! Then it's nose to the ground to snuffle along licking the frost. Great pictures!



We would like to welcome Andrea on board as our Wellington Rep. She will no doubt already be brainstorming ideas for some fun things to do so keep watching your inbox for the next invitation.

The last litters of Leo puppies will be nearing 6 months of age now and losing their baby teeth. I can hear a few sighs of relief. Yes, those wee teeth are sharp and so many things seem to get destroyed through the teething process so hopefully things quieten down on that front.

The Championship show is only 7 weeks away and those involved are counting down the days. Much of the organising is done, the rest is up to those entering now. My very best wishes to everyone involved, good luck and enjoy. To everyone else look after yourselves and we'll chat again before Christmas.

Take care
Rosemarie

RUBY

Gerard and Donna Ball

Between us, my wife and I have had dogs most of our lives, in one form or another. Nonetheless I don't think that anything could have prepared us for the profound and overwhelming impact that our Leo, Ruby has had on us as a family. In the short 9 months (seems more) since she burst into our home, life has never been the same.

We look back at photos of her in the first weeks after she arrived. A cute little ball of fluff, no more than 10kg of round fuzziness in front of the camera - wobbling about like a misguided missile around our kitchen. In those few short weeks, she lolled about in her water bowl, flipping it over every now and then or simply crashed out on the deck in the shade during the summer heat.

Then suddenly, almost overnight it seemed, she began to grow legs. During this phase she became increasingly gangly but still with little coordination. Seemingly incapable of getting all four legs to work in unison, she would careen about the kitchen skating on the laminate floor (more about that later) or squeak endlessly on her favourite cuddly toy duck, unsurprisingly named Ducky. Ducky was duly decapitated and summarily eviscerated of his stuffing and his squeak. We think she ate it. Enter Ducky 2.

During this stage of her development I continued with the task of carrying her up and down stairs - all three flights. (Note to self: Any more Leos and we'll be by a bungalow). When it was time to either go out for a walk or go up to bed she would stand on the landing and look at me as if to say. "Well get on with it will you. I haven't got all day". It wasn't much of an issue back in those days when she only weighed 20kg. How little I knew.

Growing continued apace although it seemed that her back legs were overtaking her front legs making her look as though she was going downhill all the time. It didn't appear to bother her. We'd take her to vet periodically to weigh her and each time there were raised eyebrows as the digits kept going upwards; 25kg, 26kg, 31kg, 40kg and so on. Getting her up and down stairs was becoming less amusing, well to me anyway. Just getting her off the ground was enough to make my eyes water. I also found that she was getting longer as well, such that her head or bum would nudge the walls as I turned on the landings. A little like trying to manoeuvre the Queen Mary around a small harbour and very undignified.



Night times have also become interesting. Right from the outset, Ruby had decided that she wanted to sleep in our room. We tried crating her in the dining room at night but the neighbours complained. We moved the crate to our bedroom. She howled like a banshee. Then one night, in a moment of sleep-deprived desperation I opened the cage and let her out. As it was summer, the door to our deck was open so she trotted outside and slept solidly until the alarm went off next morning. Brilliant we thought. We've cracked it.

Our euphoria lasted only through the summer and autumn. With a little foresight, we might have realised our stupidity. As winter arrived and the first southerly gale blasted through the open door to our deck into our bedroom, Ruby cuddled up with her absurdly thick and insulating fur coat on the deck and went to blissful sleep. Inside, we froze. We've tried to get her to sleep inside on the bedroom floor but it's hopeless. She sits next to the bed fretting, silhouetted in the gloom, a huge gargoyle looming over me, her nose about 10cm from my left ear panting like a set of bellows until I'm driven to derision. 1-0 to Ruby.

Life with Ruby continues to be interesting. She recently developed a phobia of our kitchen floor. The shiny laminate type.

Ruby continued ...

For nearly 8 months she trotted over it without a second thought then suddenly and without the slightest warning she refused to cross it. Try as we might we couldn't get her to step on to it. She'd stand in the doorway of the living room and yap at it (her little squeaky yap – not the huge window rattling bark reserved for cats) but without crossing the threshold. We're unsure as to what brought on this particular neurosis but she seems to be gradually getting over it and normal service, at least for the time being appears to have resumed.

One of the best parts about sharing our lives with Ruby is that we've made so many new acquaintances. Whether it's in the local market, sitting outside a coffee shop, visiting the local shops or simply walking down the street, everyone wants to stroke her, pat her or just admire her. "Is it a German Shepherd?" they ask. Or "is there any Chow in her?" (Good grief). No one can fail to fall in love with her teddy bear looks and soft coat. Kids love her too in spite of her overwhelming size - although a few adults have been known to cross the street rather than get too close. The other night we were walking her before bedtime and as we passed a parked car, she lifted her head and peered into the open driver's window. The young lad behind the wheel chatting to the passenger nearly died of fright. "Whoa!" he exclaimed and then, "Cool dog". Nice.

Sadly we lost Tess, one of our old Spaniels a few weeks ago. She was nearly 13 but she is survived by her sister who seems to be going strong still. We know realistically though that we will probably lose her too in the not too distant future leaving just Ruby. It'll seem strange having just the one dog again but Ruby's huge heart and personality will, without any doubt help to fill the gap. Much as we have loved our Spaniels dearly (we brought them with us from France), Ruby is like a fourth member of the family, another child almost. She answers back when reprimanded, sulks when she doesn't get her own way and sleeps all day. Having said that she does display a steeper learning curve than most adolescents and generally has better eating habits.

In spite of the floors constantly awash with water, the endless vacuuming, a back garden that resembles the Somme and three cats on Prozac we would change nothing. Now if we could only find a holiday destination that would also accept 60kg hearthrug, life would be complete...

August 2011.



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Club Notices - Upcoming Events

Championship Show, 9 October 2011

In conjunction with Tauranga shows,
Kaitemako Road, Welcome Bay, Tauranga.
Last date for entries 16 September 2011.

Judge Guido Perosino — Italy.

All Leo enthusiasts and supporters are
welcome ringside. Shared lunch.

In celebration of Minnie's 2nd birthday!



Taken at Onemana, whilst on holiday this week.

There is another rock pool the size of a washing machine she gets into, but that wasn't her choice yesterday!!

Thanks to Jan and John for this great shot.

Snow in Christchurch - a Leo in flight.



Michelle and Jason—what a great photo

With so many of us now into our Therapy work, I thought we had better take a look at what this is really all about. I found this and thought it covered it pretty well!

Therapis Dogis

Drug:

- Generic name: Therapis Dogis
- Trade name: Therapy Dog

Classification:

- Anti-depressant
- Enthusiasm stimulant

Dosage:

- Take PRN when available
- No restriction on frequency of application

Side Effects:

- Can cause patient to become excited
- Has been known to cause uncontrollable smiling and laughter
- May create anticipation of next dosage

Forms:

- Comes in all sizes, shapes, breeds and colours
- Some brands come with active face washers
- Some models do tricks

Packaging:

- Collar and leash, official tags
- Bandanna, photo-badge
- Often seen in costumes of various sorts

Availability:

- By prescription from any staff member
- Over the counter or under the counter
- On scheduled basis
- When least expected
- Through the volunteer office

Applicability:

- In halls, lounges, rooms, on beds
- Effective with children and elders

Recommended use:

- Before operations to reduce anxiety
- During bed rest to promote mental stimulation and physical rehabilitation

Benefits:

- Decreases blood pressure
- Rekindles memories
- Promotes discourse
- Usually stimulates hand exercises
- Promotes healing and well-being
- Encourages staff and visitor interaction

Warnings:

- Inclined to mooch for treats

Off to work. . . .

I started limping at about four months old and finally ended up having shoulder surgery to remove some lumps of gnarly bone. The surgeon promised a good recovery, that I'd have full range of movement and a bright future. Mum and Dad were skeptical to say the least and decided that come what may this dog would still have a useful life even if a little lame. They had me assessed as a Therapy dog for Canine Friends and as you can all guess, I passed the test with flying colours. Better still the surgeon was right and there are no signs of lameness as promised. So now every Thursday morning we get our work clothes on. I wear the obligatory bright red scarf around my neck and mum clips on her badge and we head off to visit the folk in a rest home the other side of town.

Mum was a little cautious the first visit I could tell. I was curious for sure everything smelled a little different but now I'm a pro and march along on a mission to visit my new found friends. The residents in Redwoods Village seem to enjoy seeing me. Perhaps it's cause I'm a laid back sort of fella. Steady as she goes is me. The staff all seem smitten with me too cause there is always someone at the ready with a camera to pose with me for photos. Sometimes they offer me a wee treat and good manners dictate that I clean up every crumb. Fingers sometimes need an extra lick too. Cheese scones are my most favourite but I'm not fussy really. Everything tastes pretty good to me.

Mum seems to answer the same old questions a dozen times but I think that's just old folk eh. They just forget things.

Today apparently I missed the resident cat. She was coming towards us in the corridor. Mum tells me she tightened her grip on the leash in readiness, but puss decided a right hand turn was necessary for the preservation of life and we continued on our walk of duty unaware. What a shame. That could have been an exciting diversion.



Even though her eyesight is failing and she's now a little hard of hearing, Miss Dolly a bright 103 year old, reaches out to her favourite visitor for her regular cuddle and 'kiss'.

Says Miss Dolly, "They know if you like them or not, they really do!"

Now, I've earned my keep this morning and it's time for a long nap but maybe I'll write again soon. Be good.

Cheers Amstel

On the International front: . . .



Dog Photographer of the Year Winner Causes a Splash

A stunning shot of a veteran rescue dog at work at a lake in Suffolk has been announced as the winner of the Kennel Club's glittering annual Dog Photographer of the Year award for 2009. Tom, a 10 year old Leonberger from Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, was captured pulling a boat to safety as part of a training exercise in a lake in Weybread, Suffolk by professional photographer Terry Pover. The photograph was entered as part of the 'Dogs at Work' category of the award, and was deemed to be the overall best shot from a bumper crop of entries by an esteemed panel of judges at the Kennel Club, which included professional dog photographers.

Terry took the shot as part of an accredited test held by the Leonberger Club of Great Britain every year, designed to challenge a dog's ability to pull boats inland to save people.

Tom is the current Leonberger water champion and is believed to be the only dog in the UK to have passed all of the relevant water tests put in front of him.

Terry, a retired police officer, is a graduate from the Norwich School of Photography and is a Licentiate member of the Royal Photographic Society. His photograph, along with the winning images from the other categories 'Dogs at Play' (Sarah Middleton from Derby)

'Dog Portrait' (Liana Philips from Dundee) and

'Man's Best Friend' (Nicola McClure from Edinburgh), will be displayed at Discover Dogs on 14-15 November 2009 at Earl's Court in London.

Terry's winning image will also be reproduced on the front cover of the December edition of the Kennel Club's flagship publication, the *Kennel Gazette*.

Terry said of his triumph: 'I'm delighted to have won this award. The fact that Tom is doing what he loves at such a ripe old age is amazing. To capture the joy of his work and to have the Kennel

Club acknowledge this in an award is something very special.

And they say you can't teach an old dog new tricks!

http://agilitynet.co.uk/Kennel%20Club/kennelclub_news.HTML



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Feedback!

As members of this little club your thoughts and ideas are valuable to us.
 Are you happy with what we provide.
 Could we service the club better?
 Do you have any suggestions?
 How could we service pet owners in the club better?

We would appreciate your feedback regards club activities and information available.

All your ideas **will** be tabled for discussion. Email: ellied@clubnet.co.nz

YOUR AD HERE

For a small donation to the club you can now advertise in the newsletter. If you have a trailer for sale, any dog equipment you would like to get rid of or would like to advertise a get together please email hviid@xtra.co.nz with your advert.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED!!!

**Newsletters are distributed four times a year
 March, June, September and December**

You are more than welcome to submit anything you think other club members would be interested in, no matter how brief or seemingly trivial.

Your club. . .

Sometimes we assume that everyone knows stuff because we ourselves do. Then we find out – NO, that's not always the case! Duh!

This week we received an email which was rather abrupt and a little tetchy requesting to be removed from the club contact list, effective immediately. I admit to being a little taken aback but obliged promptly. That's the right and proper thing to do.

But it got me wondering what 'terrible' wrong we'd committed to these folk for such a passionate request. And so a carefully worded email was dispatched saying goodbye, wishing all the very best ahead and would you be able to tell us how better the club could serve its members. The answer surprised me and prompts me to write a little about your club because yes I think we assume that you all know stuff because we ourselves know it.

I've found out – NO, that's not always the case. Duh!

The club was formed 9 years ago by the breeders when the Leo population in NZ was very small. But the purpose of the club was to support and encourage Leo lovers/ owners, offering help and useful information about a breed relatively new to the country. That same purpose drives the club today. The Leonberger is still a rare breed in NZ. Many NZ'ers have still never heard of them and the club website is a library chock full of information.

In the early days with only a few litters on the ground it was relatively easy for a breeder to hold a litter birthday picnic and almost every puppy and owner would be there. Years have passed. Many litters have arrived since then. There are over 350 Leos in NZ now and the geographical spread is wide, from the tip up north to the bottom of the south. Some have gone overseas too. A picnic to include everyone now is impossible.



Hence, the advent of Area Reps. We currently have 3 Reps established in areas where the Leo population is the highest. Where I live for example – Rotorua – there's only me. The closest Leo is an hour away so, no picnics here obviously. Here's a rough membership count of our Leo owners across NZ. AK region=32, HN=10, BOP=18, WN=11, CHCH=6, TAR=5 and the rest of us are scattered in ones and twos around the country. It is an impossible task to meet you all socially. For that we are really sorry.

This is where our newsletter evolved with the intention of keeping all informed of the goings on around the country. The majority of info in those newsletters is contributed by your committee. You are invited to contribute any tidbits as well. We try to correspond via email to let you all know what's going on where. The annual calendar photo competition and that sort of thing helps to keep you all involved. If you can come up with any other suggestions then please let us know. We are only too willing to give things a try.

The committee is primarily made up of breeders and show folk. Not because that's the rule but because they are the ones who have invested their time and established the breed and are still motivated by the same purpose as the committee 9 years ago. We live miles and miles apart from each other and conduct our meetings at dog

Your Club continued: . . .

shows where it's likely the majority of us will meet up now and then. In between times we correspond and make decisions by email. There are only ten of us and we are all busy working folk. The club stuff takes a big chunk of our spare time. There's no office building, no receptionist, no lunch breaks and certainly no huge bank balance. Yet we still get out there and organize Water trials for the keen, we run stands at Pet Expo's or spend time at Pet Stores in the interest of teaching the public about our breed, we spend weekends at shows and somewhere in the year someone will have to take time out to look after a litter.

Your membership fee is the only steady income for the club, remembering too that your first year is free. Typically the club can chug along with income and expenses balancing each other. This year we have our first Champ show and as you know we did some extra fundraising to help pay for this. You may wonder why have we chosen to hold the show in Tauranga? Our secretary lives there and we are using the expertise and strengths of the Tauranga Kennel club who are also holding several shows at the same place on the same day. Costs are reduced. Common sense would tell you all that whilst we are a small club this move increases our manpower ten fold.

Now, I realize the world of dog shows is not something most of you are interested in. In fact you can't see rhyme nor reason why anyone would be interested and you'd wish we'd shut up about the jolly Champ shows bla bla bla. This is one of those times when I must continue so you can understand what we assumed you already knew.

*Dog shows are the platform where breeders can display their goods as it were. Leonbergers as I said before are a rare breed to NZ. Every opportunity we get to display this breed and get recognition or win is comparable to something like the Oscars. It is desirable to have Champions before you make puppies. Eight wins makes a Champion. That process all takes time. **You only have your gorgeous Leo because of this process.** The breeders who founded this club and remain grounded on the committee have had the patience and the love for this breed and spent these last 12 years going to these shows weekend after weekend rain hail and shine. There is nothing glamorous about port-a-loos! Nothing exciting about camp food. The excitement is if we win. It doesn't happen often.*

The opportunity to have Guido Perosino at our first Champ show is HUGE. Guido is a specialist Leonberger judge and will give us a verbal critique of each and every dog shown. Remember these show dogs are the future of Leonbergers in NZ. Care and thought goes into every mating for purposes of health and temperament, looks etc. Guido will let us know if we are on the right track. This is important for the breed here.

So, I guess, this is written so that you can have a little more understanding of the workings of your club. We love Leonbergers with a passion. There are some aspects of this passion you may never become involved in but just remember your Leo is the result of all this.



. . . Rosemarie

Found this great write up on page 13 in Herald on Sunday, August 21st. Places like the Pet Expo's are fantastic platforms for the club and the breeders to inform the general public about the Leonberger.

21.2011-9

Gentle giant with fur of gold

By Robyn Yousef

WITH MATURE males often weighing in at up to 80kg, a Leonberger isn't the kind of dog you can bounce on your knee. But, these very regal pets do make wonderful companions as they are known for their friendly, outgoing and sensitive nature.

Leonbergers were supposedly bred to resemble the lion on the town crest of the German city of Leonberg back in the early 1800s. Although the mature male has a lionesque mane and a fully-feathered tail, the similarities end there. They are becoming increasingly popular as therapy dogs in New Zealand (in rest homes and hospitals) and are widely regarded as affectionate and very sociable family pets. There are now more than 300 Leonbergers in this country and five breeders selling this breed, first introduced in Queenstown in the 1980s.

The Leonberger was originally bred from the Newfoundland, Saint Bernard, and Great Pyrenean mountain dog. The reddish-brown with a black mask colouring of today's Leonbergers

was developed during the 19th century, probably by introducing other breeds.

Leonbergers were originally used to protect livestock, as rescue dogs (particularly in water) and to pull loads in West Germany and other European countries. The breed was nearly lost during the world wars with Leonbergers today tracing their ancestry back to just eight dogs that survived World War II.

"They are very versatile, they love water and will happily pull carts," explains Francisca Baars. With her husband, Rob, she has a 'hobby' breeding Leonbergers at their rural property near Tauranga. She has owned these dogs for 14 years and has bred them for about 12.

"They are people-magnets. They just love to be with their owners and socialising. Their enthusiasm for people is incredibly endearing," she says.

A large, squarely-built and handsome dog, Leonbergers have shades of gold and various touches of red and brown on their coats and many have dark tipping.

"The outstanding feature is their black mask and particularly their very dark and kind eyes. They look at you and smile and laugh," Francisca adds.

Mature males grow up to 75 to 80 cms at shoulder height and can weigh up to 80kg, while the female is usually about 70 cms at shoulder height and is about 20kg lighter than the males. With their origins as working dogs, Leonbergers are surprisingly agile and well-co-ordinated.

They are incredibly loyal and quickly become deeply attached to their pack, either human or animal. Ideal as a family pet, Leonbergers are excellent with children and other dogs, although socialisation and training is a must.

"They need a relationship with their owners. While they can live in an ordinary-sized city section if you are prepared to take them out, the important thing to stress is that they require companionship. This is not the kind of dog you can leave locked up in a backyard all day alone while you work," Francisca adds.

"They need about 30 minutes exercise a day and love a romp on the beach or at the park. But their social life is key to them as they love company and they will fit in with your lifestyle. These dogs definitely need 'their people.' While we sometimes see very boisterous puppies and 'Turbo-Bergers' during their teenage years, they are generally very calm dogs and extremely easygoing. But, because they are known for their kindness, the Leonbergers are not good guard dogs."

Their diet varies but, at Skyewood Leonbergers, Francisca estimates she spends about \$25 a week for each dog on food. "I feed them dry food (containing meat and veges with no grains), along with tripe, chicken frames or veal cuts."

With their heavy double coat, grooming is usually required about twice a week but becomes a daily job when the dogs are moulting each year. They are generally strong and healthy animals with breeders now screening their dogs to reduce the risk of bone/joint problems. Their lifespan is between eight to 10 years, in line with other similarly-sized breeds.

● The Leonberger Club of New Zealand, formed in 2002, holds regular events for owners and their dogs.

PEOPLE MAGNET Leonbergers are sociable and love being with their owners.
GETTY IMAGES

Pet Expo

November
Sat 5, Sun 6
Wellington
Trentham Racecourse

The club has a display stand at this Pet Expo and
WE NEED YOU!!! What for?

To hand out pamphlets, answer questions, hold the dogs,
answer questions, smile and answer more questions.

The public are very demanding and sometimes quite inconsiderate
so while we need smiling tolerant ambassadors
we also need quiet, tolerant dogs.

If you could spare a couple of hours to help our club
promote this majestic breed please contact me. . . rosemarie@lymac.co.nz

Water, Fun & Antics at Jones Landing



We parked up at Jones Landing and grabbed our jackets off the back seat cause the wind was blowing a hooley. The dogs weren't fazed of course but the cows right next door were another matter entirely! Guess some of them haven't had up close and personal with a cow before. The gazebo shuddered every now and then and the camp stove threatened on many occasion to blow right out but we stuck it out determined not to be driven from our purpose. WATER!

You will all know there is nothing much short of a juicy bone can persuade a Leo to keep dry when there's a river of splashy sploshy water going begging!

The boat was ready, the float toys waiting and the dogs were keen as mustard.

For some, both Leo and owner, this was their first water training experience and for others they were just there for the fun. The pros were able to showcase their skills to the newbies and it would be accurate to say this was yet another great day with the dogs.

Lunchtime with hot soup and grilled sausages didn't go amiss either.

So, if you didn't make it to Jones Landing you missed a goodie! Get your . . . water gear ready there'll be another one soon.

Don't miss out!

RECENT SHOW RESULTS

Results printed according to information on hand. Apologies if incomplete.

July 3/4	Hauraki	Sat.	Best of Breed:	Magnum
			Reserve BOB:	Stella
July 17/17	Hamilton	Sat.	Best Baby Puppy:	Kowolski
		Sat	BOB Magnum x 2	
		Sun	BOB Magnum x 2	
Sep 10/11	Huntly	Sat.	Best of Group and NZ Bred of	
			Best NZBred of Group+BOB:	Magnum
			Reserve BOB	Jak
		Sun.	Best of Breed:	

VALES

We understand the feeling of pain and loss when one loses a member of the family.

This year has seen the passing of a few of your beloved Leos and we would welcome a small obituary and photo for the website and /or the newsletter.

When you feel able to put pen to paper please let us honour your friend in this way.



SPECIAL OFFER

Mike from . . .

Diamond Naturals Large Breed Lamb Rice Puppy Food (18kg) that we would like to offer to Leonberger Dog Club Members at a special price of \$ 80 per bag (excludes freight) Normal retail price \$135-\$140, so it's almost at half price!

This is a high specification puppy food

- 27% Protein
- 15% Fat !!
- No corn
- No wheat
- No by-product

This deal is available to club members on a first come, first served basis. The deal ends when the food is all sold. Remember deal does not include freight.

To purchase simply email Mike mike@nutraqold.co.nz or phone (09) 536 6494

Tails - Anonymous

It's here again - the email that says
Please send photos, articles and jokes
I grabbed that old mouse and clicked the delete
Someone else will send something I hope

But the guilt lingered on
And I thought it's not right, I really should give it a go
Try writing a verse, a line, or a song
Signed anonymous so nobody knows

Twas 4 years ago I sent in a tale
about Leos and mud and of mess
I read it again, it wasn't half bad
So another'll be easy I guess

You're obviously nuts about Leos like me
Cause you're reading this terrible verse
So likely there's nothing you don't already know
Not much I can say will be worse

You've noticed of course that their ears hang low
And their grins go from ear to ear
Their paws are huge, just like the holes they dig
They're as big as a freakin bear

It's their tails that really defy all the odds
You'll know exactly what I mean
As the excitement builds, their tail winds up
Is it a four legged flying machine?

At the rate that they whirr, according to math
Lift off should happen quite soon
A few more rounds, the revs are up
At that speed they'll reach the moon

But Leos don't fly no matter how fast
They spin that large hairy tail
They can run like a hoon and swim like a fish
But at flying they'll surely fail

Our windows are constantly covered in mud
Cause their wet wagging tails swipe by
You gotta have Arnica up on the shelf
For when you're whacked by their tail on the thigh

There's nowt you can do it's just a sad fact
That the leo you love and adore
Is armed to the hilt with a weapon like tail
and he'll win the battle for sure

if the weather is crap you haven't a chance
of keeping your outfit clean
just walking past that tail will leave
you grubby beyond belief

nothing escapes the swish of their tail
either dry or wet it's the same
thumping the car or smudging the glass
it's all part of the Leo game

Now grab that cup before it spills
The dogs are going by
By now you know the fault in the lounge
Yeah coffee tables are 'tail high'!

so like I said it's nothing new
you've discovered these facts for yourself
but I'm the schmuck who put it to verse
because they sent an email for help.

LeonbergersA handful more folk are now better informed about Leos thanks to Ryan McRae who gave this presentation at his Officers Training ,in the RNZAF.

Leonbergers

Some people have pet cats... Some people have pet fish... Some people might even have a pet horse... The more adventurous might have a pet snake, pet parrot or pet lizard... Or for the more unfortunate or socially impaired, a pet rock! My family however, has pet Leonbergers! Commonly mistaken as a bear, lion, horse, bull, tank, tiger, beast... you get the picture, they are big!

Good morning all, my name is Ryan McRae and it is time for all of you to learn about Leonbergers. We will start with the very beginning at the creation of the breed, learning where they came from and why? Then we will move on to what the breed is and is capable of. Finally finishing up with a little introduction to a family friend...

FIRST POINT - So, where did they come from???

The Leonberger breed was established in Germany in 1846. The mayor of the town of Leonberg wanted a dog that resembled the animal in the town's coat of arms. The breed was developed with that exact goal in mind, to resemble the look of... A lion! Well accomplished I must say.



This was achieved by the crossing of the Newfoundland (left) (a strong, massive breed of a calm, sweet nature), the Saint Bernard (centre) (a giant, muscular breed of a gentle, friendly nature) and the Great Pyrenees (right) (a breed devoted to its family and with a thick, weather resistant coat it can stand even the coldest temperatures).

The first Leonberger named Cadillac arrived in New Zealand in January 1991. The second named Kimpa arrived a year later and together they produced two litters. Since this foundation stone there have been many more imports and many more dog litters. Today there are over 300 around New Zealand.

The Leonberger is a very large, muscular working dog. Starting at the head, they always have dark brown eyes. They have a black mask, a long muzzle, a large nose and clearly outlined nostrils. Their ears are large, triangular, and hang flat close to the head. They have black, dry lips and the breed does not tend to drool, however, due to their love of water, when it comes to drinking, it can go everywhere.

They have a medium to long, water resistant, double coat that comes in a variety of colours of red-brown, lion-yellow, shades of sand, cream and gold. A double coat is simply a softer undercoat together with a coarser overcoat. In dogs this is also known as a fur coat. Quite often the hair has black tips and there may also be a small white patch on the chest as well as white tips on the toes. They have a bushy tail that hangs straight down as well as feathered front and rear legs. They have black pads on their feet and they also have webbed toes, making them excellent swimmers.

Muscular... Webbed feet... You could say they are quite the amphibious task force...

Now we get onto the coolest part... The thick fluffy mane! Taking up to four years to fully develop the mane ultimately gives the Leonberger its lion-like appearance.

SECOND POINT - So that's where they came from and what they look like! Now lets move on to what they can do?

They have inherited both the temperament and the love of water from its giant, noble ancestors. They has a lively nature, are brave, intelligent and affectionate. They have a friendly personality and their loyalty and love for their family is unmatched. They are a great companion for both adults and children, coming highly patient and trustworthy, they put up with even the most annoying children. The Leonberger is a calm, steady breed that avoids confrontation with other dogs. If the situation gets heated, more often than not the Leonberger will simply walk away.

For such a large breed they are surprisingly agile, fast and active. They have a lower chance of health risks compared to other large dogs and have an 8-9 year life span. These dogs do not need a lot of exercise, however they absolutely love to swim, hike and be trained to pull carts and sleds, as you'll see soon...

These traits have meant that the breed has been successful for guarding livestock, search and rescue, obedience, tracking, as a family companion and water-rescue. In fact up in Auckland they have recently employed their first Leonberger as a surf life saving dog!

Continued.... THIRD POINT - Moving on a bit closer to home now, I'd like to introduce you all to... Magnum! He is 3 years and 4 months old, stands tall at 80cm to his shoulder, and weighs in at a massive 72.5 kg.



His hobbies include:

- Barking at cyclists,
 - Barking at utes,
 - Splashing in all the water he can find,
 - Waking you up in the morning with a good old lick to the face,
 - Chewing my dad's socks... however only while he is wearing them,
 - Chillaxing in the shade,
- And lastly, getting all up in your grill when you have food.

As you could imagine, he eats, a lot. Everyday he indulges in breakfast and dinner, consisting of 2 cups of kibble and ¼ kg of meat, commonly chicken, lamb or beef pet mince. Throughout the day he might snack on tux biscuits or dog treats such as dried sheep/cow/pig ears and good old smackos. I'd have to say though his favourite food is, without a doubt... ice blocks! He knows when you have one; he knows how to get some. Give that dog a piece of your ice block or juicy and you will make his day!



Magnum is a qualified canine friend which means he visits old folk homes, playschools and the like. The elders love him, the kids love him, and of course, he loves all the pats and attention he can get.

Magnum absolutely loves the water. He has qualified on a water-rescue course and we have even brought him his own pool. When we visit the lake, he would always be first in, last out. The rain does not bother him, nor does jumping on you and getting you soaked before you get the chance to dry him off. He also has his very own cart. He has been invited to numerous child birthday parties now, and has also made an appearance at a Christmas party.



Being a pure breed, he competes alongside both my mum and dad in New Zealand dog breeding shows. At designated Championship shows they compete for the top title of their breed known as a challenge. For a New Zealand Leonberger to gain the title NZ Champion, they must be awarded 8 challenges. Earlier at the start of the year at the New Zealand Nationals he came away winning the award, "Best Intermediate of Breed". Breaking this down, 'Breed' refers to competition with only other Leonbergers, 'Intermediate' refers to the age group of 2 to 3 years, and 'Best' means judged best on the day. At shows across the region he has come away winning ribbons, certificates, and... 15 challenges, making him a NZ Champion.

But why did my parents choose this breed above all others? When the first Leonberger arrived in New Zealand an article was published in the NZ Kennel Club magazine. From the first time they saw and read up about this breed they knew one day they would own one! Which actually became two early last year, but that's a story for another day.

CONCLUSION

So that's Magnum, the dog with personality, the gentle giant. Capable of eating anything, sleeping anywhere, but always showing how much he has missed you no matter how long you have been gone for.

In conclusion the Leonberger is an affectionate, loving breed that will get along with anyone. Originally bred to have a lion-like appearance the Leonberger has proven successful in a range of tasks from hiking to water-rescue thanks to its size, health and intelligence.

Now before you think that this dog isn't for you, I challenge you...

Look this puppy in the eyes and tell him you don't want to take him home!

References:

Parents
www.dogbreedinfo.com
www.leonberger.org.nz



Change for Tango

Our explanation is.....Tango should have listened to his Mum and Dad! We spent a lot of time up at Orewa beach during summer which is Tango's favourite place in the world as he gets loads of walks and about 5 swims a day (as well as hundreds of people admiring him and running through the usual Leo questions !!) But because all Tango wants to do is swim and roll in the sand and then lie in the shade all day, he never gets a chance to dry out, so his coat stayed damp most of the time and then got more and more sand and salt water... We tried to brush him and dry him but he had other ideas – his coat basically turned into one big dread! Our plan was to clip his coat back to about an inch long all over so we could brush it out and start again – as well as keep him cool, but the clippers kept getting stuck in his fur, so we decided to go all the way! It took about 5 hours. We didn't leave his fluffy head for style value but more because 5 hours was enough!!!!!! He was VERY embarrassed for the first few days and didn't want to go anywhere. Also, his 'elbows' and knees got scratched up from lying on the concrete, with no protection from his coat, and he had a few grazed red patches. But after those few days, he loved it – it was so much cooler for him. It took about 3 months to grow back fully – in time for the cooler weather. I would not recommend taking it right down to a zero blade in future – but he definitely appreciated having his big heavy, damp, matted coat gone. NO LEOS WERE HARMED IN THIS EXERCISE – EXCEPT FOR PRIDE!
I've attached some photos of Tango from a few weeks ago too – having fun in the snow – so you can see he is now right back to his gorgeous self again 😊



Shedor and Alanta in the snow in Christchurch



Melbourne



Melbourne Visit

Rob & I had a most enjoyable visit to Melbourne at the end of July 2011. My Australian friend Lyndsay Edwards happened to mention that a few Aussie Leo people would be coming to Melbourne to take part in a Leo get together and a couple of shows. We had some Skywards miles owing, so off we went.

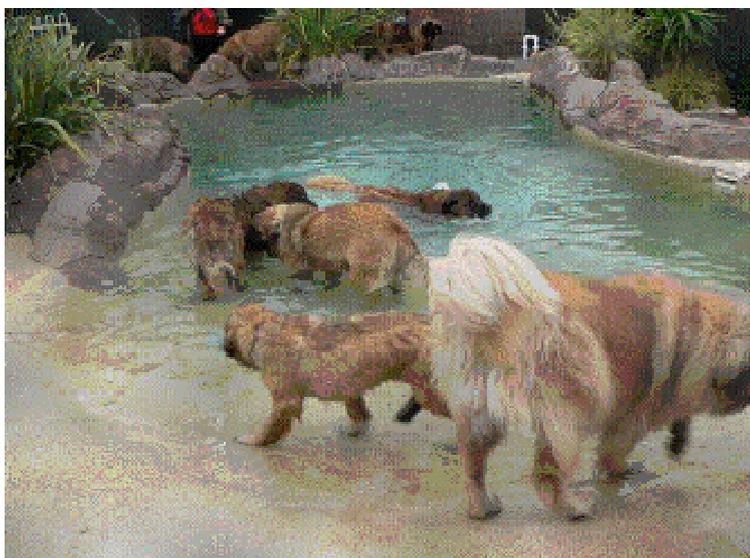
It was lovely to catch up with the Australian dogs and their owners, some who came from Sydney and Tasmania. I was especially excited to catch up with Skyewood – Leonz dogs, Saffy, Rose, Titan, Wynnie and Zephyr, and some of their lovely offspring. It was nice to meet up with their owners too. Indy & Xari from Verna's Simtara Leos were there as well, and looking good.

The gathering on the Saturday was really well attended. The venue at Kepala is custom made for dog get-togethers with large fenced areas, a swimming pool, agility area, and a huge sandy area.

On the Sunday, I had the pleasure of being allowed to handle Rose & Titan at the shows. It was a great thrill for me when they performed really well.

Thank you for the wonderful hospitality you guys showed us. We thoroughly enjoyed the visit and look forward to catching up again.

Fran & Rob



TAWA'S FEAR OF PEOPLE.

Leos love people don't they? So I thought.....

Tawa is now 11 months old. I am unsure as to why she is so frightened of people. Was it last year's Christmas Parade where everyone wanted to touch her? Was it being in a crate for six weeks following surgery for her hips and only seeing vets in that time? Has there ever been one specific reason for her fear? I really don't know.

She has been very unsure of people right from her first venture to puppy socialisation classes. I took her basic obedience and clicker training in the hope that she would make friends with other dogs and people but she shied away from them all, shivering and shaking and trying to make herself as small as possible. Getting her out of the car each week was a mission in itself. Bribery of chicken necks, cheese, possum etc. got me nowhere. Each week I took her to town with Rosie and always had to stop for coffee as Tawa dragged me to an outside table and would hide underneath it. In April I started to take both dogs to the local hospital where I work, Rosie of course just loved it, all the attention, but not Tawa.

Over the last couple of months her anxiety and fears have grown beyond reasonable expectations, no longer happy to shiver and shake she had started to growl and bark at any strangers, all the training she had learnt appeared to have been forgotten, I felt it was time to seek professional help. The last thing I wanted was an unhappy frightened Leo whose next step maybe to bite somebody. I have taken Tawa to a dog behaviourist.

After a two hour session of assessment the result was that she is trainable and can learn to like people.....eventually! Apparently she does not trust and respect me and I apparently don't trust her e.g. I can't trust her to come back to me when she is called (when off the lead) etc. Strange that, because I can trust her always to be there at breakfast and tea time, trust her to dig holes in the garden, trust her to chew Rosie's bed up and not her own, trust her to rip all her toys to shreds, trust her to find any water and jump up and down in it, trust her to make me laugh when I see all the trouble she caused, and I hope that she trusts me enough to know that I love her dearly and will do anything to help her get over her problems no matter to time or cost.

So the prescription from the dog behaviourist to cure her fear is for the next three months she is confined to our property except when we see her each week and she is not allowed to see anybody but us. I believe after that time she can gradually be introduced to more people, how this will eventuate I am not sure but I guess the behaviourist has it all worked out. Hopefully by summer she will be a normal happy "little" Leo and be able to cope with strangers and different surroundings.

Week one has consisted of four, six minute sessions of walking anticlockwise in a circle with her on the lead. I am allowed to talk to her only in minute three and four and during those two minutes, have to stop and stand for 5 seconds three or four times. I am up at 5am and walking in circles by 6am in the pitch black and frost to ensure she gets a training session in before I go to work, and her last session usually in the dark before she goes to bed (in the hope she still remembers what to do in the morning!!)

This is only day 4 and she has improved already walking on the lead and comes a little more often when called BUT, my lawn already has a track in it and I'm dizzy, I am praying that next week we can walk clockwise so as I can unwind myself!!

I can't wait to see what comes next.....!

Jane Pordon
Te Puke

Bored Dogs

Just like kids when dogs are bored, they can sometimes behave badly and somewhat destroy the environment you live in. Here's some tips to help prevent your dog from getting bored and ruining your house:

- ✦ Make sure your dog has toys and things to play with - change them regularly
- ✦ Take time out of your day to play with your dog
- ✦ Take time out to take your dog for a walk
- ✦ Train your dog - go to obedience classes
- ✦ If allowed inside, simply let them be with you in the house
- ✦ When leaving home alone make sure they have things to occupy their time - chew toys, treat balls etc
- ✦

Provide safe digging areas - where you want them to dig - bury bones and treats for them to find

Microchips - Not Just for Dogs

Lessons learned from the Christchurch earthquakes have proven the benefits of the microchip. All pets rescued with a microchip were quickly reunited with their owners, this included cats. For pet dogs microchips are now mandatory in New Zealand, however movement is afoot to microchip our feline friends as well. Cats are more likely to stray and having a microchip can only but aide in the reuniting process as proved in Christchurch this year. You cannot register your cat with your local council but there is a national database run by the Companion Animal Society where you can register your animals microchips and be contacted from wherever your animal has been found - the cost to do this is around \$15.00 which goes directly to the register and can be done at anytime, not just at the time of microchipping, through your local vet - something to consider.

Welcome to New Members

The Club would like to welcome the following new members and their families along with of course their gorgeous pups:

Deborah Christie with Ruby
Hayden Corbett and Ralph
Louise Giltrap
John Kenwright with Tasha
Jeff with Pebbles
Peter & Robyn Goffin with Saxon
Simon & Caroline Newcombe with Bronson

The Club would like to welcome our new Area Representative for the Wellington region, **Andrea Houlihan**. Keep watching your bulletin emails for updates on social events happening in your area.

To All Members - if any of you contact details change please email Lynne luby@xtra.co.nz so that we can keep our records current

The Dog's Dictionary

Leash: a strap that attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your owner where you want him or her to go.

Dog Bed: Any soft, clean surface, such as a white bedspread, newly upholstered couch or the clean washing.

Drool: what you do when your owners have food and you don't. to do this properly, sit as close as you can, look sad and let the drool fall to the floor, or better yet, on their laps.

Sniff: a social custom to use when you greet other dogs or those people that sometimes that smell like dogs.

Sofas: are to dogs like napkins are to people. After eating it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa and wipe your whiskers clean. If there are people sitting on the couch just include them as a handy wipe.

Bath: a process use to clean you, drench the floor, walls and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

Lean: every good dog's response to the command "sit" especially if your owner is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

Love: a feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction, shared by you and your owner. Show it by wagging your tail.

GASTRIC DILATATION/VOLVULUS SYNDROME IN DOGS

Overview

Gastric dilatation is a condition that can develop in many different breeds of dogs. The condition is commonly associated with large meals and causes the stomach to dilate because of food and gas and may get to a point where neither may be expelled. As the stomach begins to dilate and expand, the pressure in the stomach begins to increase. The increased pressure and size of the stomach may have several severe consequences, including preventing adequate blood return to the heart from the abdomen, loss of blood flow to the lining of the stomach, and rupture of the stomach wall. As the stomach expands, it may also put pressure on the diaphragm preventing the lungs from adequately expanding, which leads to decreased ability to maintain normal breathing (ventilation). The entire body suffers from the poor ventilation leading to death of cells in many tissues. Additionally, the stomach can become dilated enough to rotate in the abdomen, a condition called volvulus. The rotation can occasionally lead to blockage to the blood supply to the spleen and the stomach wall requiring surgical removal of the dead tissues. Most of these patients are in shock due to the effects on the entire body. The treatment of this condition involves stabilization of the patient, decompression of the stomach and surgery to return the stomach to the normal position permanently (gastropexy) and evaluate abdominal organs for damage and treat them appropriately as determined at the time of surgery.

Causes

Several studies have been published that have evaluated risk factors and causes for gastric dilatation and volvulus in dogs. This syndrome is not completely understood; however, we know that there is an association in dogs that have a deep chest (increased thoracic height to width ratio), dogs that are fed a single large meal once daily, older dogs and dogs that are related to other dogs that have had the condition. Additionally, it has been suggested that elevated feeding, dogs that have previously had a spleen removed, large or giant breed dogs, and stress may result in an increased incidence of this condition. A 2006 study also determined that dogs fed dry dog foods that list oils (e.g. sunflower oil, animal fat) among the first four label ingredients predispose a high risk dog to GDV.

Incidence and Prevalence

Nearly all breeds of dogs have been reported to have had gastric dilatation with or without volvulus, but many of the commonly seen breeds are Great Danes, Weimaraners, St. Bernards, Irish setters and Gordon setters. Female and male dogs are represented equally and dogs as young as 10 months and as old as 14 years have been recognized. The true number of cases in a population of dogs remains undetermined although it is reported to affect approximately 60,000 dogs per year.

Signs and Symptoms

Initial signs are often associated with abdominal pain. These can include but are not limited to:

- an anxious look or looking at the abdomen
- standing and stretching
- drooling
- distending abdomen
- retching without producing anything

As the disease progresses, the animal may begin to pant, have abdominal distension, or be weak and collapse and be recumbent. On physical examination, patients often have elevated heart and respiratory rates, have poor pulse quality, and have poor capillary refill times. Abdominal distension is commonly noted.

When to Seek Veterinary Advice

Stabilization and surgery are best when performed early in the course of the disease and mortality rates increase with the severity of disease. If your pet has exhibited any of the above clinical signs, they should be evaluated by a veterinarian immediately. Additionally, as many breeds and body conformation types (deep chest) are predisposing factors, evaluating if your pet is among those discussed here, will allow early detection and treatment. Surgery is indicated if the diagnosis of gastric dilatation with or without volvulus has been established. Your pet may be referred to a surgical specialist for treatment if this condition is diagnosed. [Find an ACVS Veterinary Surgeon.](#)

Exam Screening Tests and Imaging

Most veterinarians require initial bloodwork that includes a complete blood count (CBC), serum chemistry, and a urinalysis. These allow for the determination of the nature of the metabolic disturbances that may be concurrently happening. It also allows the veterinarian to rule out certain diseases which may mimic the clinical signs of gastric dilatation. Additionally, abdominal radiographs are used to confirm a diagnosis and an electrocardiogram (ECG) is used to evaluate the presence of cardiac arrhythmias (commonly seen later in the disease course). Blood gas analysis is also commonly performed to evaluate the nature and severity of the respiratory compromise. Additional tests may be recommended by your surgeon.

Differential Diagnosis

Gastric dilatation with or without volvulus may appear like many different conditions. This can occur because of the wide variety of clinical presentation the patient may exhibit depending on the severity of the disease. Some endocrine disease such as hypoadrenocorticism (Addison's disease) may cause signs of weakness and abdominal pain. Additionally, a variety of abdominal conditions including foreign body, neoplasia (cancer), mesenteric torsion, splenic torsion, and hernias may appear with similar clinical signs. All of these conditions warrant evaluation by a veterinarian.

Complications Caused by the Disease

As gastric dilatation worsens and full body effects become prolonged, many secondary complications may occur. Respiration and cardiac output are diminished throughout the course of the disease leading to poor oxygen delivery to many tissues (hypoxia). This leads to cell death in the liver, kidneys, and other vital organs. Cardiac arrhythmias (abnormal heart beats) are commonly seen because of the hypoxia. Additionally, the lining of the entire gastrointestinal tract is at risk of cell death and sloughing. As the condition progresses, toxins may be increasing locally and when gastric dilatation is relieved these may circulate through the body resulting in additional cardiac arrhythmias, acute renal failure, and liver failure. Bacteria also commonly gain access to the blood during this condition leading to bacteremia (bacteria in the blood) and sepsis.

Treatment Options

Stabilization of the patient is paramount and often begins with intravenous fluids and oxygen therapy. Gastric decompression often follows, which includes the passing of a tube down the esophagus into to stomach to release the air and fluid accumulation and can be frequently followed with lavage (flushing of water) into and out of the stomach to remove remaining food particles. In certain cases this is not possible and a needle or catheter may be placed into the stomach from outside the body to release air and aid in the passing of the tube. The time for general anesthesia and surgical stabilization will be determined by the stability of your pet and at the discretion of the surgeon. Surgery involves full exploration of the abdomen and de-rotation of the stomach. Additionally, the viability of the stomach wall, the spleen, and all other organs will be determined. Removal of part of the stomach wall (partial gastrectomy) or the spleen (splenectomy) is occasionally performed. Once the stomach is returned to the normal position in the abdomen, it should be fixed to the body wall (gastropexy)

Acupressure and Bloat



Utilisation of an acupressure point in your dog's hind leg may be useful to stimulate gastrointestinal mobility to help combat bloat in an emergency. This procedure is not recommended instead of veterinary treatment, but if begun early enough, may help save your dog's life! A visit to the vet is still essential, as bloat is life threatening.

If torsion has already occurred, massaging the pressure point will not help.

The acupressure point is on the hind leg (point **ST36** on the diagram). If you start at the hock, on the front of the leg (anterior) you can feel the tibia. Move your hand up the leg along the tibia's sharp crest; what in humans would be called the shin. As your hand approaches the stifle, or the "knee" the crest becomes very pronounced and then curls around to the outside (laterally). Just inside this curve is a depression. The acupressure point is in this depression.

So put another way: "On the outside hind leg, just below the knee (stifle), in a clear depression in the middle of the muscle toward the front of the leg."

An acupuncturist might insert a needle into this spot, but massaging also stimulates the point. The gastrointestinal tract starts to contract and move (peristalsis) and expels the built up gas before torsion can occur.

Gently massage the point with the ball of your thumb.

HOROSCOPES



CANINE HOROSCOPES – LIBRA, SCORPIO and CAPRICORN

www.julieannamos.hubpages.com/hub/Dog-Horoscopes

Libra Dogs (September 23 – October 22)

The motto of a Libra dog could well be “Balance is in the parts.” Contrarily, it could also be “Do I have to make a decision?” Libra dogs are a balanced animal: part devil, part angel. Harmony is wonderful, but so is chaos. While bright and wanting to learn, Libras are usually slow. They would rather watch then respond too quickly. This results in some people believing a Libra dog comes only when they want to. While basically true, it reflects their watching and measuring things out before they decide to respond.

Libra dogs also tend to be a bit lazy. They like to lie on the sofa or their bed listening to music. You have to stimulate them to get off the couch and learn. This and the learning process make it difficult for the trainer. It can be facilitated if the relationship is one-on-one. Group sessions and methods do not work as well as person-to-dog. If you work at it, you may not only get the Libra dog to retrieve the object but also to bring it back.

Aquarius and Gemini signs are the best people for a Libra dog.

Scorpio Dogs (October 23 – November 21)

The motto is “Strong Will, Strong Body.” This is reflected in the physical and psychological characteristics of a Scorpio dog. Scorpio dogs are athletic and tough. They love to win in everything. Good scrappers, they require lots of exercise and love. A Scorpio puppy can hold a grudge, so beware. Yet, Scorpio dogs are loyal. They bond easily but are best as an only dog. This will prevent them from scrapping and in general making any other animal in the house miserable. Be firm and loving when you discipline your Scorpio.

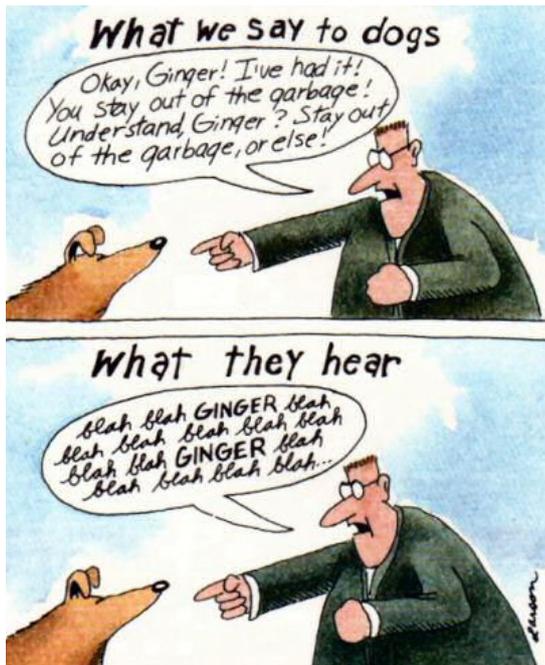
Another quality of Scorpio puppies is their hoarding nature. These are packrat dogs. They will steal and hide any and everything they desire away.

Aries, Sagittarius, Cancer, Pisces and Scorpio are the best people for a Scorpio dog.

Sagittarius Dogs (November 22 – December 21)

The motto of a Sagittarius dog is “Don’t worry, be happy.” This indicates the happy, playful and even clown-like nature of a Sagittarius dog. They love to be loved. They are optimistic and require attention. They will take risks and always make you laugh. Sagittarius dogs are forever curious. They love activity. They want to go and be and be there. Quick to learn and born with a sense of adventure, a Sagittarius puppy is the perfect travel companion.

Sagittarius, Leo and Aries are the best people for a Sagittarius dog.



"Well, here we go again. ... Did anyone here not eat his or her homework on the way to school?"



Becci in the snow

Dear Club Members

With only 4 months till Christmas it's time to start designing the **2012 Calendar**. We need your help.

- ▣ We need your Leo's photo
- ▣ Digital - High resolution
- ▣ Page set up 'landscape'
- ▣ Closing date 24th September

As per last year we have decided to run a small competition regards photo entries for this calendar. Those whose pictures get selected or print will get a bonus deal – *one free calendar with your order.*

But, you need to be in to win!

This is not a glamour shoot or an advertising billboard. It's all about Leo's being Leo's. The wet ones, the muddy ones, the naughty ones, the mischievous ones, the cute ones and all the others from every other category that I haven't mentioned. They are all worthy of print.

(It is preferable that the photo does NOT include people.)

Calendars make great presents for Christmas and ours will be ready for overseas posting. Get clicking - you only have 1 month to get that winning photo in.

Closing date September 24th.

Email your entries to info@lyonzred.co.nz (p.s. don't resize!)

Or post your pics on disk to:
PO BOX 12061,