

# SHEPHERD



# NEWS



Official Publication of the German Shepherd Dog League of NSW Inc

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October 2013

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# **Notices**

## **General Meetings**

We are continueing to fail in reaching a quorum for our monthly General Meetings. As this is unfair to those few (usually 10 or 12 people) who are travelling to attend the meetings only to discover that again we have insufficient numbers to hold a meeting, the committee has passed a resolution to change from monthly to quarterly meetings. These meetings will be held as follows:

**March - General Business & Election of Judges**

**June - General Business**

**September - General Business**

**November - Annual General Meeting**

Committee meetings will continue to be held on a monthly basis, this will ensure the continued smoothrunning of our club with the details of these meetings reported to the members by the reading of minutes at the next available general meeting.

## **Judging Order**

As of 1st January 2013 the Judging Order at all shows will be Stock Coats followed by Long Stock Coats. This is in compliance with the directions of Dogs NSW and the ANKC.

## **GSDL Shop**

The GSDL Shop will be open at the State Breed Assessment from 10 am to 2 pm. There will be leads, collars and a lot of other items, including a number of items on special available for sale.

## **A and Z Stamps**

Please note that the A&Z cannot be used after a dogs name unless it has been x-rayed through National Council Schemes. If you have an animal x-rayed through the BVA you CANNOT use the A&Z stamp when entering shows or trials.

## **Long Stock Coat Evaluations**

Evaluations for Long Stock Coat German Shepherds will now be held after each Breed Survey . If there is sufficient demand additional days will be scheduled as required.

## **GSDCA Patron**

As agreed at the 2013 GSDCA AGM, and voted on as a 60 day motion, it is with pleasure that we advise that Mrs. Dawn Fraser has accepted our invitation to represent the GSDCA as our Patron.

We welcome Dawn to our organisation.

**Val Moody,**

**Secretary,**

**GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA Inc.**

**(Please Note: the GSDL suggested her)**

## **Breed Survey Scheme**

At the 2013 GSDCA Annual General Meeting held in Melbourne it was resolved that the charges for the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme would increase as from the **1st of July 2013**.

The determined fees from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 are :-

Charges to the owners via member clubs	<b>\$35.00 (Inc GST)</b>
GSDCA charge to member clubs	<b>\$27.00 (Inc GST)</b>

**Also please note – all paperwork for Breed Survey is to be forwarded to the NSW Registrar, Pam Jarvis, one week prior to the Survey and a cheque/money order is to accompany the paperwork. It is also necessary for you to bring the original paperwork also to survey which is to be sighted by the surveyor surveying your dog.**

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Welcome to the final Shepherd News for the Financial Year 2012-2013.

Another great year has passed and it is reassuring to have such a dedicated committee working toward the betterment of the German Shepherd Dog League and the guardianship of the German Shepherd Dog.

I would like to express my appreciation and many thanks to my fellow executive and committee. Their knowledge and tireless, selfless work ethic has been an asset and should be appreciated by all members of the GSDL. Also, I extend my thanks to the general members that have helped over the year. It must be remembered that many personal hours, and often, personal expense is required when taking on a position within the functional workings of the GSDL.

Once again, I must emphasize that you have a great team working for the GSDL.

The financial status of the GSDL is showing a healthy profit. Our trading accounts will be explained further when the accounts have been finally audited and presented by our Treasurer.

Our shows have been successful and I thank our Show Secretary, Anne Mackenzie, Show Manager, Vince Panetta, Committee Members and the general members that assist on the day, in the canteen, our stenographers and stewards. Many thanks go to Tony D'Arcy and many others, working tirelessly in support of our Show Manager.

The introduction of exhibiting Long Stock Coats (LSC) and the organisation of this has been an interesting learning curve and are now becoming more formalised. The LSC are now in the revamped point score competition for 2014 and beyond.

The Demonstration Team is working very hard and with enthusiasm. The increase of the demand for their participation at events is undertaken with dedication. The Demonstration Team is our marketing facility for the general public to realise how wonderful our breed is.

Our Welfare Team has worked passionately, involving many hours of personal time and expense. Their efforts in supporting the dogs that have come to some misfortune in their lives is very much appreciated.

A new Training Branch was established on the Central Coast and my special thanks to those individuals that have made this possible with their time and effort.

Our new kitchen refurbishment that came about with the help of Dogs NSW is excellent and has made life a lot easier for all that function within it.

I thank Dogs NSW for their support of the GSDL throughout the year.

I hope all our new members have enjoyed their membership and continue to maintain membership.

As President, my efforts in stabilising and moving the GSDL forward have been satisfying and pleasurable. Under my direction, I have identified many individual talents and expertise and have been able to delegate some responsibilities to various members of the committee. The committee members concerned have undertaken these responsibilities with enthusiasm and tireless effort. Each committee member has brought their special talents to the committee, not only to achieve their own responsibilities but also to work and support the committee as a whole.

Again I thank my Committee as a whole and look forward to working with them in 2014 and also the many members who are supportive and appreciative of the Committee's efforts.

I wish everyone a safe, happy and successful journey as we move forward toward Christmas and the new year of 2014.

**Graeme Stevenson**  
**President-GSDL of NSW Inc.**

## **TATTOO REPORT**

During the current financial year, tattooing and microchipping has gone well.

The figures for this year are down on last financial years recording.

554 pups tattooed in the last financial year, compared to 319 for this year.

Tattoo is still an alternative requirement for the Breed Improvement Schemes. With the introduction of compulsory Microchipping prior to registration, the input of Tattoo Numbers into the database indicates that there are many breeders that have forgone tattooing. There are still a large number of breeders that are continuing to tattoo.

I wish to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the Tattoo Officers and Tattoo/Microchip Officers who donate their time and expertise as a service for the breeders within the GSDL and also to those officers that get their reports in on time.

**Graeme Stevenson**  
**GSDL Tattoo and Microchip Registrar**

## **WEBMASTERS REPORT**

The GSDL web site has continued being developed as useful tool for both the members as well as visitors to the site.

I would like to thank members and committee for providing me with information for the website.

Regards

**Frances McAdam**  
**Webmaster**

## **VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT**

I would like to thank the current committee 2013 for a job well done. We have had a good year of working together and all round commitment to seeing the League go forward. As always with any committee we have had some difficult times but this has not affected the running of the club. Again this year we have had financial success as will be shown in the treasurer's report. I have been general roustabout helping out when and where I can. It is good to see the help we are getting in setting up shows on a Thursday night and taking the rings down after the show and also the exhibitors who leave the ground in such a clean condition after the show, it is always nice to look out onto the grounds after a show and see it that way.

I would like to see if we can help the Demonstration team get up and running with more participation from those out there with dogs that are able to do some outstanding exercises coming forward and help in our displays. The Demo Team put a lot of time and effort into their training and deserves more help from any interested parties out there. It would be only a small part of your time to help in this area and would be well appreciated by the League and the Demonstration Team as well.

We are still looking for someone with some photography experience to take photo's at our shows and obedience trials, so do not be afraid to come up and have a go, we would like some help in this department so we may continue building a picture history of the League and the dogs and owners that support.

My position throughout the year was again to be backstop to Graeme in his position as President and he has steered the League again into calmer waters. It has been my pleasure to work with him and the rest of the team.

I would like to thank Graeme Fay and Karen Eaton for the professional way they have handled their respective portfolios this year and also the rest of the committee for a job well done.

Last but not least I would like to thank you the members for your support of the League and hope that your support is ongoing, we can only prosper with a good committee and a supportive membership and look forward to the coming year.

***Terry Jarvis***

***Vice President***

## **SHOW SECRETARYS REPORT**

This year has seen another decline in entries to our shows, especially in the male classes. There is very little improvement in LSC entries. Obedience trial numbers are staying about the same.

If anyone has any Constructive Criticism or ideas on how to improve on our shows please don't hesitate to contact me at [drumann36@bigpond.com](mailto:drumann36@bigpond.com)

The League has conducted 4 Obedience Trials & 8 shows this year, two Championship Shows, two Open Shows, 2 Sanction Shows and 2 Championship Shows at the Spring Fair which is held in conjunction with Dogs NSW. Most of the shows made a small profit but the Spring Fair in August was very disappointing in numbers and at the time of writing this report I have no knowledge of the financial outcome. The State Breed Assessment was held again in July with an increase in numbers on last year and was very well received by all who attended; hopefully we will see more exhibitors next year.

This year's committee has tried to reduce expenditure and keep entry prices down as much as possible.

Thank you to all our Exhibitors and Triallers who have supported our Club this year

And to the stewards Karen Higham & Teresa Curry & stenographers Fay Stokes & Mary Matuschka

My Special Thank You to Judy Connors (Vest Controller) we are getting better at returning our vests & Fay Stokes for printing the catalogues your help is invaluable

***Ann Mackenzie***

***Show Secretary***

## **SOCIAL SECRETARYS REPORT**

Coming to our shows I know your concentration is on showing your dogs and trying to spend time with friends to catch up with each other. My job in running the canteen has made that a lot easier as when you get hungry you come to see me and the team and so we get to see more of everyone than you do. Bruce has been a great help getting your breakfast ready for you and we have tried to make sure that what we serve is quality and value for money.

Our Beer Battered Fish and Chips along with the Chicken Schnitzel, Cheese, Lettuce and Mayo that we introduced have sold very well and we try to make sure we have a quality, varied menu available for you to choose from. I am also trying to make sure that when Breed Surveys are held our canteen is always open so we are ready for your lunch. We also try to cater for the little ones, so if you haven't been to our canteen yet, we would love to see you.

I would like to thank you all for making our canteen a success and a BIG thank you to all my helpers who assisted during 2013.

Sharon Laughlin

Social Secretary

## **PUPPY LISTING REPORT**

The last twelve months has been again successful with members taking advantage of and enjoying the service provided by the G.S.D.L as backup to their own efforts to sell pups. This year the litters have been up and down with some weeks having a good number of litters on to perhaps just one! But the reality is the members using the listings are selling their pups and are happy with the results they get through the listings.

Puppy Listings is a job that is enjoyable to oversee. Being able to assist puppy enquirers with help and direction to the Breeders listed to the purchasing of their puppies being the pleasing aspect. I have again enjoyed the position of puppy listing over the last twelve months and look forward to another pleasing year

The Website is of great assistance this year, more than before because a lot of the enquiries are by direct contact through the Website as the general public become more savvy with using the internet and it is pleasing to see new people and members taking advantage of it. The new purchaser is ringing the breeders direct and asking the right questions on most occasions as they are more conscious of what is needed to know prior to purchasing their new pup. This in the main is because they have been in touch with me through the website and are a lot more wiser when they ring or email the breeder and are appreciative of this service. I have had feedback from breeders stating that when puppy buyers contact them they are well informed which I believe is a plus for the service.

Members using the older dog listing find that their animals do get placed through the service but we have had only a few listings throughout the year. And we now have a section on the website with information on tracing lost dogs. The email "The Puppy Registrar" gets plenty of use and enquires are answered in detail in quick time.

Breeders using the listings are sent a courtesy email about one week prior to them coming off the listings to see how the pups are selling and if they need to extend their time. The majority of breeders do advise me when their litters are sold which is a condition of being on Puppy Listings and essential to the correct running of the listing service.

We do get a lot of calls for people wishing to re home their older Shepherd and to hear some of the stories where the animals are 8 & nine years old and have to go as a pair and sometimes have to be split up. We do what we can and sometimes we cannot help but when we get genuine enquiries our Welfare officer Jo Tucker and her merry band of helpers get out and about and work actively trying to place these animals and our thanks should go to them for the work they do.

Our Website manager Fran McAdam is another one that needs a thank you as the litters change and pups are sold she is the lady that does all the work taking them down and putting them up and she and I work well together in this effort, thank you Frances.

As I said previously that I have enjoyed the position of Puppy Listing Registrar and helping people who are not sure whether they should or should not own a shepherd, whether they have enough room to keep one, also about when and where to train.

I have quite a few people who buy from our listings, also ringing up to thank me and tell me all about their new pup.

***Pam Jarvis***  
***Puppy Listing Registrar***

## **SHEPHERD NEWS EDITORS REPORT**

I am continuing to try and develop Shepherd News into a well structured and more consistent type of magazine. However to make this a more relevant publication for you the members, I continue to need more feedback from you. I am only too pleased to get your emails and comments as to what we should be including in these pages.

The need is for more response and feedback from you, the members, as to what type of articles and information you wish to see in this, your magazine.

We have been fortunate over the last two issues to have an excellent 2 part article from Phillip Scaysbrook which has given us all the benefits of his experiences and research. I am sure that many more members could also contribute articles that share these types of benefits, we will be only too glad to publish any such articles. Or even links to information you have seen that could be of interest or benefit to all

I would like to remind everyone that advertising is available to members at \$50 for the cover and \$30 per page inside. These advertisements can be for Dog or Commercial related content. Non member rates are Price on Application.

I would like to thank all those that have helped with articles and information to include in our magazine.

***Bruce Laughlin***  
***Shepherd News Editor***

## Welfare Report

We have had a very busy year with many dogs being surrendered directly to us instead of being taken to the pounds. At the moment there are at least 10 tattooed dogs needing homes and the owners are telling me it is because of changes in family circumstances i.e. divorce, moving house, having children. The other excuses are no time for the dog as the owners work full time and or the dog is becoming unruly and jumping on the children. The actual facts are: the puppies or the dogs are not trained, disciplined, exercised, or given the proper diet and often the owners are ignorant and for whatever reason chose to ignore the advice given by the breeder. They also choose not to refer to the information provided in the puppy packs. I have seen many puppy packs when the dogs are surrendered and they provide excellent advice and information and there is no reason for not referring to this as the dog develops. Therefore I am at a loss to explain why there is a need to just dump a dog because they have become too much. We had one demand from a woman to take her dog and train it while the woman was on holiday and when she returned she wanted the dog back fully trained and perfect. The dog was 12 months old and a handful but that is to be expected when she wasn't exercised, mentally and physically stimulated and fed properly.

We have a 10 year old dog at Parramatta who was purchased from a breeder by the son against the wishes of his mother. Son has since moved out and will not take the dog with him and will not take responsibility for the dog. He is not being walked and he is left out in the back yard and his ears are fly bitten. He is apparently an aggressive resource guarder and the family have told me to pick up the dog and find a home for it all within a very short space of time as the mother is moving to a unit. I have since spoken to the mother and she is not moving into a unit. I did go and meet the dog and he was in very poor condition. He had a go at me through the bottom of the gate and would not let up even when the mother was with me. I told her and the daughter I cannot be expected to take the dog and rehome it when it is so aggressive and also may not last another year due to his condition. The dog was extremely thin and has never had a brush or a bath. I told the family they will have to take the dog to the vet for a health check as they argued the fact that the dog was in good condition and had been well looked after and I also told them at the same time to talk to the vet about having the dog put to sleep as this was the kindest thing to do. They told me none of them drove and he didn't behave in the car anyway. I contacted the breeder to let her know the situation as I had a feeling this family may contact her and complain that I will not take their dog.

We have a long coat bitch who was surrendered to us because one of the owners, the husband, was jailed for bashing his wife. The wife had to move quickly to an address that would not allow her to keep a dog so consequently the dog was an emergency surrender. This bitch is 6 years old from a breeder who won't assist us with kennelling costs and will also not take the dog until we can rehome her. They have however advertised her on their website. The good news is she is becoming much better with other dogs and she is wonderful with children and people. As we go to press we may have a home for her so fingers crossed for her.

I received a phone call from a dog trainer expressing concern about a pup who had been sold to a couple who work full time and have a 12 year old desexed staffy. The couple were informed by the breeders that the two bitches would get on and there would be no problems and there was no need to introduce the dogs off territory. The pup is now 10 months old and the two dogs have to be kept separate as Bella has bashed the staffy with severe intent. Half the side of the staffy's face had been ripped off. The owners at the trainer's recommendation contacted me with the hope I could help with the behaviour. Unfortunately they have not been firm enough with this little girl and she has no respect for either owner. I need to find her a home quickly where the new owner has a lot of experience and will be prepared to carry on obedience training and allow this little girl to have a role in the family. This bitch is only 9 months old. I have received many calls for Bella and none of them were suitable. Unfortunately people do not read the information about the dog and decide to ring anyway.

A couple contacted me asking for my assistance to rehome their dog as they acquired a puppy from a breeder and they told the breeder they both work long hours and they rent a unit on the northern beaches. This little girl was born with a faulty heart valve and it didn't close as it would normally do. The breeders were made aware of this and the owner's ensured Autumn had the problem fixed. Autumn has become extremely aggressive on lead to the point where the owners cannot take her out without being frightened of what she may do to another dog if she sees it. The owners have contacted behaviourists and trainers but to no avail. A vet did suggest she be euthanased due to her aggressive behaviour. Her owners adore her but are admitting defeat and would like us to rehome her. This is going to be very difficult due to her aggression and the owners are in a hurry to find the right home for her.

I received a call regarding a shepherd down in Canberra who was surrendered to the RSPCA. I arranged for the 8 year old to come up here to Sydney and he is still here with us in kennels. This boy is lovely natured but full on. His owner let him get away with too much but he is responding very well to extra training and discipline. His breeder has been very supportive and has offered to come and help with his training and also assist with the kennelling fees for which I am very grateful. We also had a breeder deliver her dog to us from the owners and also offered to pay the kennelling. Both these breeders have been proactive and have advertised the dogs on their websites.

Unfortunately though breeders are still homing pups to owners who work long hours, have had no experience, don't train the dog, don't socialise the dog and expect it to while away its time in the backyard while the owners work. What is worse is that breeders are now asking owners to contact me to rehome their dogs. One prime example is a dog was acquired as a family pet, the owner works long hours away from home, the wife has no clue is too soft and now the dog is jumping on the kids in the back yard. They are now too scared to interact with the dog so the owner rang the breeder and was told to ring me. I am always happy to help with training and behavioural issues but I feel the responsibility should be on the breeder to at least talk it through and see if they can assist. At least call me and let me know that the owners may be calling so I know what the problem is before they ring. Most of the time there is no real problem just ignorance but the owners are not prepared to put in the work. They expect someone to wave a magic wand and all will be well. Also I have had complaints from owners who have phoned breeders and are spoken to very abruptly and rudely and on more than one occasion the breeders have hung up on them. They then phone me and the problem is more often than not easily fixed. At the end of the day these dogs/puppies are the breeders responsibility not mine or my team.



I have noticed on a very regular basis that breeders are advertising dogs on Dogzonline and rehoming them without desexing them. This is adding to the puppy farming and back yard breeding problems. Breeders need to ensure their dogs are desexed prior to being rehomed. We as a rescue group are obliged to and I do not see why it would be any different for a breeder unless the dog is being moved onto a show home or to another breeder. I appreciate the new owners tell you they will get it done and some do but many do not and we see the result. About a year ago a bitch and a dog from the same breeder were sold to two separate homes and were used for breeding. When they were no longer able to be bred from they both ended up with us. We had to get them desexed and find homes for them. They came to us in appalling condition and had to be in our care before they were well enough to be rehomed. These two dogs were from a well known breeder and while the breeder may have been careful about choosing the original home the subsequent owners were backyard breeding low life. These dogs should have been desexed before they left the breeder. If that occurs then the chances of the new owners being decent caring pet owners are much higher.

On a more positive note thank you to all the breeders who have been supportive and assisted as best they can to find their dogs a good home. Also thank you once again to our team of helpers whose names I won't mention as you know who put in the hard yards for the cause! You have been wonderful support and I am very grateful that you are able to drop everything without hesitation to pick up dogs, deliver dogs, spend time with the kennelled dogs and ensuring they are properly temperament tested and have basic obedience by the time they leave us. Also thank you for temperament testing the prospective owners as well! That is the hard part because not everyone understands that shepherds are highly intelligent loving animals that need to be with their family and not being left outside all day every day to do nothing but guard the property. No wonder there are behavioural issues. No exercise and sheer boredom leads to a destructive unruly aggressive dog.

Finally! Is there anybody out there who would be able to foster dogs that have been surrendered? Pound dogs would be quarantined at kennels and then vet checked prior to being fostered. All dogs that come to us are fully vaccinated and vet checked and of course desexed. When owners contact me to surrender their dog I do ask that they keep the dog for as long as possible otherwise we would run out of kennel space and money very quickly. This tends to work well as owners appreciate we do our best to find homes but we are sometimes given no notice and the dog has to go. Perhaps if a breeder is downsizing and has room for a foster dog or two or even has no dogs at the moment and wishes to help. This would save us \$1000's in kennelling especially during the school holidays. At that premium time we are charged \$39 per dog per day and we not even able to kennel dogs at Christmas unless we book way in advance. We do tend to do that as we know that owners are going on holidays and they need to get rid of their dog but we usually only have a maximum of 2 spaces at 2 kennels. At the moment we have 20 or more shepherds needing rehoming. As I mentioned 10 of these are tattooed.

**Jo Tucker**  
**Welfare Officer**

## *Vale*

It is with great sadness that we report the death of life member of the GSDL, Mary Davidson aged (we believe) 87 years. Mary's membership of the club commenced sometime prior to 1970.

Many older GSDL members will remember the Arngold German Shepherds which were bred for many many years by the twins Mary and Margaret Davidson.



***Arngold Shandari***



**The German Shepherd Demo Team is a group of friendly supportive people, who LOVE their dogs,  
LOVE working with them,  
LOVE training and socializing together and  
LOVE promoting German Shepherds to the public at a range of events throughout the wider Sydney area.**

**We train in obedience and agility skills most Saturday afternoons at Erskine Park from February to November. Both human and dog members have great fun together and have become wonderful friends.**



**WE NEED  
NEW  
MEMBERS!**



**Do you have a well socialised German Shepherd that has mastered the basic obedience commands sit, drop, stay, stand and recall on lead?**

**Can your dog heel nicely and interact well with children, adults and other dogs?**

**Do you have free time at weekends that you would like to spend improving and extending your dog's skills and experiences?**

**Would you like to join a group of great people & beautiful dogs developing obedience and agility skills, performing at public events and demonstrating the wonderful qualities of our German Shepherds? ..... YES?**

**Then the Demo Team needs YOU!**

**Contact Annette 9716 8648 0402893569 or Tracey 96046425 0415102962**



## **Response from the RSPSA to German Shepherd Article**

The previous issue of German Shepherd rescue featured an article taken from the Newcastle Herald that discussed RSPCA NSW euthanasia rates in the Hunter region.

Since the publishing of that article RSPCA NSW has responded and clarified the true situation regarding euthanasia and animal rehoming rates in the Hunter area.

Since commencing work in the Hunter area dog euthanasia numbers have actually decreased and the RSPCA is on track to reach even lower figures this year. Along with rescue groups like German Shepherd rescue, the RSPCA believes the number of companion animals killed each year in Australia is still too high.

The RSPCA is proactively, willingly and responsibly doing its part to help ensure the number of unwanted companion animals is reduced each and every year.

The RSPCA always has and continues to work with rescue groups in the Hunter area and has rehomed animals with the assistance of Hunter Animal Rescue and Dog Rescue Newcastle. The RSPCA also works with several, breed-specific rescue groups, including German Shepherd rescue.

In fact, since 2010, we have released 37 dogs to German Shepherd rescue. The RSPCA team at Rutherford have a great relationship with German Shepherd rescue and they can regularly be seen at the Shelter collecting animals for rehoming.

The RSPCA and German Shepherd rescue is working extremely hard for the residents in the Hunter and we hope that this provides a balanced perspective to the discussion taking place.

**Steve Coleman,**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**RSPCA NSW**

**Please Note:** The on-publishing of this news report was not meant to denigrate or malign the RSPCA in any way. It was published with one intent only, to highlight the fate that awaits so many Dogs of all breeds that end up in Shelters and Pounds. I have a personal friend that is a council ranger and can assure everyone that at his pound the death rates on animals are in the 60% - 70% range. As noted above by Mr Coleman, it is difficult to reduce these types of death rates in pounds. This is something that as breeders we should all consider.

**Bruce Laughlin**  
**Editor**

## **MATTERS OF INTEREST FOR GSDL MEMBERS**

1. New rules will apply in our Point Score Awards as from the commencement to the 2014 Point Score competition (from the December 2013 Show). These rules will allow for ***ALL GSD's to be included in the same revamped competition, Stock Coats and Long Stock Coats***. It had been hoped to include the complete new rules in this issue of Shepherd News, but, space does not allow it. The new rules can be downloaded from the Point Score page on our website and will be published as soon as possible
2. As from our December 2013 Show & Trial, the League will include the Australian Bred Class giving our exhibitors the opportunity of showing either in Open or Australian Bred once their animals reach the age of 3 years.

Excellents will be awarded from Australian Bred PROVIDING the animal has passed the Hip & Elbow scheme and is Breed Surveyed and is 2 years of age. Note: Excellents will only be awarded from the Australian Bred and Open Classes.

With regard to the Point Score the dog/bitch will receive points from one class only and will be taken from the first class entered i.e. if you enter Australian Bred and Open with the same animal you will receive points from the Australian Bred Class only.

3. As from 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2013 Mrs. Fay Stokes has been appointed to the position of NSW State Breed Survey Co-ordinator and all enquiries regarding survey should now be directed to Fay either by email or telephone.
4. Our Central Coast Branch will conduct Show Training on the 1st Thursday of every month – enquiries regarding this should be directed to our Training Supt. Karen Eaton, either by email or phone.
5. Members are reminded that the GSDL runs online advertising for Breeders and Stud Dogs as well as Puppy Listings. Those using these services are receiving a clear benefit from it. For more information contact our webmaster.

## **THE DOGS BARKING (PART 2)**

### **or HOW LOCAL COUNCILS IN NEW SOUTH WALES ARE RESPONDING TO COMPLAINTS INVOLVING BREEDERS OF PEDIGREE DOGS**

AGAIN I AM NOT A SOLICITOR AND THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS ONLY A ARGUMENT BASED UPON JUDGEMENTS HANDED DOWN BY THE NSWLEC ON THIS SUBJECT. THE JUDGEMENTS DO HOWEVER FORM CASE LAW WHICH LOCAL COUNCILS MUST CONSIDER WHEN MAKING DECISIONS.

Well the council rangers have left satisfied there are no nuisance dogs on your property so things should return to normal now. Then another letter arrives from your local council only this time it is from someone in the environmental/planning or regulatory services department of your local council. They are telling you that you are in contravention of the councils' Local Environment Plan (LEP) as you are carrying on an 'animal boarding, breeding, training establishment for commercial purposes' in an area where this activity is prohibited due to its zoning.

So what are they talking about? What commercial purpose? Who is carrying on a business on your property? You don't file any tax returns for money you get on the sale of some of the puppies you breed and the amount of money you receive in any year is small and only helps in keeping your dogs in the life if luxury they are used to.

To understand what they are talking about we need to begin with the Local Environment Plan (LEP) for your council (well all councils in NSW should have the same template for their LEP by now) This comes from the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 where all land in NSW is zoned according to its use. These zonings are listed in the Act and also your council LEP along with a map of the council area showing what zonings are where. They govern land use in local council areas in New South Wales, with local councils able to determine if an activity is appropriate for a zoning or land use area.

(So everyone should know what their land use zoning is where they live and what activities are allowed, with or without consent and which are prohibited)

In relation to breeding animals (not just dogs but this article will concentrate on dogs) the only mention made in local councils LEP is the following definition:

*"animal boarding or training establishment means a building or place used for the breeding, boarding, training, keeping or caring of animals for commercial purposes (other than for the agistment of horses), and includes any associated riding school or ancillary veterinary hospital....."*

It draws no distinction between such an activity with 100 animals and 1 animal. Local councils have considered them the same with no distinction for members of Dogs NSW who are true hobby breeders and have 1/2/3 litters a year, keep some animals to show, sell/give others to people to do the same or as pets and sell some puppies. If ANY money changes hands then the local councils considered the activity was for a 'commercial purpose' regardless of individual circumstances. It was only with great difficulty that any compromise could be reached with a local council in relation to this activity but they still carried a big stick under the LEP.

So any person who breeds a litter of puppies would be classified by councils in NSW as carrying out an activity as defined by the above would be considered to be carrying on dog breeding for a commercial purpose. A strict interpretation of the relevant act without regards to individual circumstances if the council so wished, with little practical application of common sense.

Referring back to the land use definitions in the LEP the only areas where this activity is lawfully permitted to be carried on are:

The land use zones and whether animal boarding or training establishment is allowed or not under this Plan are as follows:

<b>Rural Zones</b>		<b>Industrial Zones</b>	
RU1 Primary Production	Only with consent	IN1 General Industrial	Allowed with consent
RU2 Rural Landscape	Either prohibited or with consent only	IN2 Light Industrial	Allowed with consent
RU3 Forestry Prohibited	Prohibited	IN3 Heavy Industrial	Allowed with consent
RU4 Primary Production Small Lots	With consent	IN4 Working Waterfront	Prohibited
RU5 Village	Prohibited	<b>Special Purpose Zones</b>	
RU6 Transition		SP1 Special Activities	Prohibited
<b>Residential Zones</b>		SP2 Infrastructure	Prohibited
R1 General Residential	Prohibited	SP3 Tourist	
R2 Low Density Residential	Prohibited	<b>Recreation Zones</b>	
R3 Medium Density Residential	Prohibited	RE1 Public Recreation	
R4 High Density Residential	Prohibited	RE2 Private Recreation	
R5 Large Lot Residential	Prohibited	<b>Environment Protection Zones</b>	
<b>Business Zones</b>		E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves	
B1 Neighbourhood Centre	Prohibited	E2 Environmental Conservation	
B2 Local Centre	Prohibited	E3 Environmental Management	
B3 Commercial Core	Prohibited	E4 Environmental Living	
B4 Mixed Use	Prohibited	<b>Waterway Zones</b>	
B5 Business Development	With consent	W1 Natural Waterways	
B6 Enterprise Corridor	Prohibited	W2 Recreational Waterways	
B7 Business Park	Allowed with consent	W3 Working Waterways	
B8 Metropolitan Centre	Prohibited		

I am open to correction with this table given it is not always clear from the template provided by the NSW Department of Planning what is allowed and what is prohibited.

So the areas where you are able to carry on this activity AS DEFINED ABOVE i.e. for a commercial purpose are very small indeed.

Before proceeding further two matters heard by the New South Wales Land & Environment Court (NSWLEC) need to be discussed as they are relevant to our situation.

The first matter is **Pittwater Council v Bolitho [2007] NSWLEC 355** before the New South Wales Land & Environment Court in relation to council powers which is relevant to this discussion is:

**“Use of land for the purpose of a dwelling house encompasses a variety of activities and uses of different natures. The keeping of domestic animals by the residents is one such activity. If a resident keeps one or more pet dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, birds, fish or other domestic animals, such activity does not constitute a use of the residential property for an independent purpose of the keeping of those particular animals or even of the keeping of animals generally. The end to which the residential property would serve would remain that of dwelling house. No different conclusion is to be drawn depending upon the size of the domestic animal. A horse might be larger than a dog but the keeping of a pet horse by a resident does not constitute use for an independent purpose of keeping a horse on the land. ...”**

So if the primary land use is still consistent with the development consent granted to that land then ancillary uses may not override this consent given it is still being used as the land use the development consent was granted for. In other words I assume everyone lives on the same property as their dogs and the primary land use of the property is as a dwelling house and associated land use.

Moving on, the matter before the NSWLEC of greatest importance from the point of view of dog breeders was the matter of **Rogers v Clarence Valley Council [2011] NSWLEC 134** The case revolved around a woman who had been granted council approval to conduct a dog rescue organization (Happy Paws Haven) in the Clarence Valley Local Council area of northern NSW. As events transpired the local council attempted to withdraw this consent on the basis that the activity being carried out was not what was approved for the land and the matter went to the NSW LEC.

The parts of the judgement relevant are:

“49 The Council contends that the scale of the activity carried out by Happy Paws Haven is of such a degree and intensity as would be expected in a commercial dog breeding and kennelling facility. The Council draws attention to the following matters:

- The whole of the site is occupied by the facility including dog houses, outbuildings and enclosures.
- Happy Paws Haven offers dogs and puppies for rehoming. It advertises the availability of dogs at a price on application. The only difference, compared to a facility run for profit, is that the dogs and puppies are provided to the public for the price of a donation to put towards costs rather than at a profit margin. The advertisement on a website, and promotion of the availability of the dogs, is a hallmark of trade or commerce.
- The facility houses multiple dogs. The evidence of Mr Ridgeway, a council officer who inspected the site on 17 June 2011, was that there were 19 dogs and 7 puppies. Housing multiple dogs requires provision of accommodation in secure runs and separate housing for some of the dogs.
- The facility is visited frequently by volunteers and persons wishing to obtain dogs or puppies in the same manner as would occur with a facility run for profit. The facility also provides work experience for school students and volunteers.
- Deliveries of feed and waste disposal occur in the same way as would occur for a facility run for profit.

The impact on the amenity of the neighbourhood by reason of noise or effluent disposal is the same or possibly worse than would occur in relation to a facility run for profit.

50 Any characterisation of development must depend on the facts at the time. In the case of Happy Paws Haven’s development, it is necessary to use the development as described in the development application and supporting documents, supplemented by the evidence concerning the number of dogs and advertising and donations for dogs to be adopted. On these facts concerning Happy Paws Haven’s development, I do not consider it is properly to be characterised as being for the purpose of commercial dog breeding and kennelling.

51 The adjective “commercial” cannot be disassociated from the words “dog breeding” and “kennelling”. The inquiry is not whether Happy Paws Haven’s development is “commercial” but whether it is “commercial dog breeding and kennelling”. Further it is not sufficient for the development being conducted by Happy Paws Haven to be merely “dog breeding and kennelling”, it must be “commercial dog breeding and kennelling”. This requires attention to be given to those factors that distinguish dog breeding and kennelling from commercial dog breeding and kennelling.

52 The Council’s submission that the scale of the activity carried out by Happy Paws Haven is of such a degree and intensity as would be expected in a commercial dog breeding and kennelling facility fails to draw this distinction. The matters particularised by the Council as being matters one would expect in a commercial dog breeding and kennelling facility are matters which one might equally expect in a dog breeding and kennelling facility.

53 The characterisation of a development for a purpose always involves analysis of the nature, extent and other features of the activity. The facts that the whole of the site is occupied by the facility including dog houses, outbuildings and enclosures; that the facility breeds dogs or houses multiple dogs in secure runs or separate housing; that premises are visited by persons wishing to obtain or collect dogs kennelled at the facility; that persons visit the facility to work, whether as employees or volunteers or on work experience; that feed is delivered for the dogs and waste from the dogs is disposed of; and that there is an impact on the amenity of the neighbourhood by reason of noise or effluent, are facts relevant to characterising the facility as being for the purpose of dog breeding and kennelling. They do not establish the further factor of commercialism so that the facility becomes for the purpose of “commercial dog breeding and kennelling”. Commercialism would come if the dog breeding and kennelling is carried out in order to engage in commerce.”

The second point from this judgement that is also relevant from our perspective is:

**“A consent authority cannot grant development consent to carry out development which is permissible without development consent or which is prohibited.”**

As part of the judgement handed down the judge has drawn a distinction between commercial and non commercial “animal boarding, breeding, training for a commercial purpose” for the first time. He stated that the same activities would be expected in both “commercial dog boarding, breeding” and also “dog breeding and boarding” He further held that individual parts of the definition could not simply be used to suit a particular purpose; the whole definition had to be considered. I.e. ‘animal boarding for a commercial purpose’ or ‘animal breeding for a commercial purpose’.

The second point refers to the fact that local councils are defined as ‘consent authorities’ for the purposes of the relevant legislation. Any activity which is not defined in the LEP, it could be argued would be considered an activity which they do not have control over and hence cannot approve or prohibited the activity.

As a result of this decision a binding interpretation and definition had been placed upon the land use activity of “animal boarding.....commercial purpose” for the first time which all local councils in NSW are now required to adhere to. In other words they cannot continue on and make up their own definitions anymore of what constitutes this activity. The distinction between hobby and commercial animal boarding, breeding, training has finally be defined by a court with the power to give binding interpretations of legislation, in other words the NSW LEC had set what is called case law in relation to this activity, something which all local councils in New South Wales must now take into account when dealing with such activities.

So referring back to our particular example at the start of this article, after further discussion with your local council on the complaint you discover they are relying solely upon calling your activity one that is undertake for a commercial purpose because you sell some of the puppies you breed for money (even giving them away has been previously considered by some local councils to be a commercial activity) and the area you live in is not zoned for this activity.

In response to their letter you reply that the NSW LEC has drawn a distinction between ‘commercial dog breeding’ and ‘dog breeding’ now and that your activities are strictly a hobby and are not commercial in nature nor intend to ever be on your part. You may also CONSIDER highlighting to the council the fact that the judgement also implied that they do not have any power over your activities as they are an activity which is permissible without development consent.

And one final point, for those who have read the NSW Companion Animals Taskforce Discussion Paper May 2012, I refer you to page 7 paragraph 1.



#### References:

New South Wales Land & Environment Court  
Rogers v Clarence Valley Council [2011] NSWLEC 134  
Pittwater Council v Bolitho [2007] NSWLEC 355

Further matters heard by the NSWLEC which you may also find interesting are:

Camilleri v Wollondilly Shire Council [2009] NSWLEC 136 (3 August 2009)  
Ghassibe J and Anor v Wingecarribee Shire Council [2007] NSWLEC 431 (17 July 2007)  
WELLINGTON COUNCIL v. AITCHISON AND ANOTHER [1995] NSWLEC 232 (19 December 1995)  
McMahon v Wagga Wagga City Council [2012] NSWLEC 1135 (25 May 2012)  
Bellbay v Hawkesbury City Council [2007] NSWLEC 723 (5 October 2007)  
Hawkesbury Shire Council v Castles & Anor [1988] NSWLEC 53 (29 July 1988)  
Hawkesbury Shire Council v Mitchell & Anor [1988] NSWLEC 8 (29 February 1988)

***Our thanks to Phillip Scaysbrook for this article***



**2013 GSDL  
Christmas Party &  
Presentation Night**

**Saturday 7th December - 7pm  
GSDL Clubhouse**

**Relax and Chat  
with**

**Pre-Dinner Nibbles**

**(Potato Chips - Dip & Crackers - Lollies)**

**Chicken, Cold Meats & Salad**

**Dessert, Tea & Coffee**

**BYO Drinks**

**Adults - only \$5**

**Children (under 12) FREE**

**Book with the Social Secretary**

**Sharon Laughlin 9755 7506**

**Email: [laug4546@dodo.net.au](mailto:laug4546@dodo.net.au)**

**(Bookings are essential for catering)**

**You must attend to collect your Trophy  
(Country Members Excepted)**

**Please Note: You Must send in  
your form to receive your Trophy**



**Entries Close 22 November 2013**

# **GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG LEAGUE INC**

## **OPEN & SANCTION SHOWS & OBEDIENCE TRIAL**

**THE BILL SPILSTEAD COMPLEX FOR CANINE AFFAIRS,  
44 LUDDENHAM RD, ORCHARD HILLS**

**SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 2013**

Classes to be judged: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 & 11 (dogs & bitches), all Obedience

Entries to: Mrs A Mackenzie, 74 Kolora Rd, Ebenezer 2756

Ph & Extreme Ph (02) 4579 9383

Cheques made payable to: German Shepherd Dog League Inc

### **JUDGES**

Mrs E Hindley (ACT)

Open Show - All Classes, General Specials

Mrs F Farley (VIC)

Sanction Show - All Classes, General Specials

Ms D Anderson (NSW)

All Obedience

Order of Judging Bitches followed by Dogs

All Stock Coats followed by All Long Stock Coats

Judging Commences Open Show 5 pm, Sanction Show not before 6 pm,  
Obedience 6.00 pm

Dogs NSW Representatives Mrs J Bennett Breed, Miss I Dewit Obedience

Vetting Time 5.30 pm **Vetting Officer** Mr N McDonald

Entry Fees Open Show \$10.00, Sanction Show \$23.00, Obedience \$12.00

Catalogues Included in entry fee, \$3.00 extra Catalogues

Refreshments Available

Point Scores GSDL Inc (Sanction Show only)

Bitches in oestrus may be shown except in Obedience

Breed Excellent medals may be awarded in Sanction Show to breed surveyed  
animals aged 2 and over entered in Aust Bred & Open Classes

Obedience Excellent medals will be awarded to animals gaining the required score

**PRIZES: General Specials Trophy & Sash, Obedience Trophy & Sash**



## **Pardon the Pun!**

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.  
I thought I saw an eye-doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.  
She was only a whisky-maker, but he loved her still.  
A rubber-band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.  
No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.  
A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.  
A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.  
Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.  
A hole has been found in the nudist-camp wall. The police are looking into it.  
Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.  
Atheism is a non-prophet organization.  
Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, "You stay here; I'll go on a head."  
A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said 'Keep off the Grass'.  
The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.  
The soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.  
A backward poet writes inverse.  
When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.  
If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you'd be in Seine.  
A vulture carrying two dead raccoons boards an airplane. The stewardess looks at him and said, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."  
Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turned to the other and said, "Dam!"  
Two Inuit sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.  
Two hydrogen atoms meet. One said, "I've lost my electron." The other said, "Are you sure?" The first replied, "Yes, I'm positive."  
Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root-canal? His goal: transcend dental medication.  
There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.  
There were three guys, one Aussie, one English and one Irish. They went on a trip to the desert, and they took three items to keep cool. The Aussie guy took a hat, the Englishman took an umbrella, but the Irishman took a car-door. The other two guys asked the Irishman...what's that for? And he said...well when it's hot I'll just roll the window down for a breeze!



**Which country in the World  
has the most rivers?**

***Last Issues Answer:  
Germany (1944-45)***

## 2013 Club Calendar - Coming Events

2nd November	German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria 91st Championship Show Judges: Herr Peter Odermatt (SV) Germany and Ms. Melanie Groth (NSW)
3rd November	Working Dog Club of Victoria Judges: Herr Peter Odermatt (SV) Germany and Ms. Melanie Groth (NSW)
10th November	Breed Survey 11.00 am - Club Grounds, Bill Spilstead Canine Complex, Luddenham Road, Erskine Park. Long coat assessment will be held at the completion of Breed Survey at the Club Grounds. Requirements: Completion of the Long Stock Application Form (available to download under "forms"), registration papers verifying the animal to be assessed is registered in your name. Please email the Secretary faystokes1@bigpond.com if you intend bringing an animal for assessment. The GSDL of NSW Inc Stock Coat & Long Stock Coat Breed Seminar, Sunday November 10th, 2013 - commencing at 1 p.m. at the GSDL Club House
25th November	AGM Meeting Erskine Park Club Rooms at 8pm
7th December	GSDL Christmas Presentation at Erskine Park Club Rooms (note must attend to collect trophies, country members excepted)
14th December	GSDL Open Show, Sanction Show & Obedience Trial Sanction Show Conformation Mrs. F. Farley (Vic) Open show TBA Obedience Mrs D. Anderson (NSW)

### **2014**

15th February	Breed Survey 11.00 am - Club Grounds, Bill Spilstead Canine Complex, Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills. Long coat assessment will be held at the completion of Breed Survey.
8 & 9 March	GSDC of Victoria Champ Show- Malcolm Griffiths
10th March	General Meeting at Orchard Hills Rooms at 8pm
22nd & 23rd March	Newcastle & Hunter Region German Shepherd Dog Club Show Judge: Mr Steve Collins (SA)
19th & 20th April	GSDL Easter Championship Show and Trial
16, 17, & 18 May	2014 National GSD Show & Trial hosted by the ACT GSDA
24th May	Breed Survey 11.00 am - Club Grounds, Bill Spilstead Canine Complex, Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills. Long coat assessment will be held at the completion of Breed Survey.
16th June	General Meeting at Orchard Hills Club Rooms at 8pm
21st June	GSDL Open Show, Sanction Show & Obedience Trial
5th July	Breed Survey 11.00 am - Club Grounds, Bill Spilstead Canine Complex, Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills. Long coat assessment will be held at the completion of Breed Survey.
19th & 20th July	GSDL NSW State Breed Assessment
9th & 10th August	Newcastle & Hunter Region German Shepherd Dog Club Show
10th August	Dogs NSW Endurance Test Bill Spilstead Complex for Canine Affairs, Orchard Hills
30th August	GSDL Spring Fair Championship Specialty Show
31st August	GSDL Spring Fair Championship Specialty Show
8th September	General Meeting at Orchard Hills Club Rooms at 8pm
4 & 5 October	ACT German Shepherd Dog Association Shows
5th October	Dogs NSW State Obedience Trial Championships
11th October	GSDL October Champ Show & Obedience Trial
1st November	GSDCV Champ Show L. Donald - Dogs all LSC/Van Dorssen - Bitches
2nd November	Victorian Working Dog Club- Van Dorssen - Dogs & all LSC/L. Donald - Bitches
8th November	Breed Survey 11.00 am - Club Grounds, Bill Spilstead Canine Complex, Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills. Long coat assessment will be held at the completion of Breed Survey.
24th November	AGM Meeting Orchard Hills Club Rooms at 8pm
6th December	GSDL Christmas Presentation at Orchard Hills Club Rooms (note must attend to collect trophies, country members excepted)
13th December	GSDL Open Show, Sanction Show & Obedience Trial

### **2015**

8th, 9th & 10th May - National GSD Show & Trial hosted by the GSDC of Victoria

### **2016**

25th, 26th & 27th March - National GSD Show & Trial hosted by the GSDL NSW

## CLUB CONTACTS

### Committee

President	Graeme Stevenson	02 9450 1639		sundaneka@optusnet.com.au
Vice President	Terry Jarvis	02 4773 9364	0407 271 418	tepe@bigpond.net.au
Secretary	Fay Stokes	02 4730 4013	0401 019 213	faystokes1@bigpond.com
<b><i>Postal Address: 23 Ariel Crescent, Cranebrook NSW 2749</i></b>				
Treasurer	Karen Eaton	02 4375 1211		kareneaton@bigpond.com
Show Manager	Vince Panetta	02 9939 1742		sline19a@bigpond.net.au
Show Secretary	Ann Mackenzie	02 4579 9383		druann36@bigpond.com
Merchandising	TBA			
Point Score	Tony D'Arcy	02 9670 1971	0418 618 817	adsms1@bigpond.com
Training Coordinator	Karen Eaton	02 4375 1211		kareneaton@bigpond.com
Shepherd News	Bruce Laughlin	02 9755 7506	0404 401 982	laug4546@dodo.com.au
Puppy Listing	Pam Jarvis	02 4773 9364	0407 271 418	tepe@bigpond.net.au
Membership Registrar	Jessica Kada	02 4776 1585	0413 008 092	jessica.kada@gmail.com
Web Master	Fran McAdam	02 9684 1252		frances@bigpond.net.au
State Tattoo Administrator	Graeme Stevenson	02 9450 1639		sundaneka@optusnet.com.au
Social Secretary	Sharon Laughlin	02 9755 7506	0415 418 589	laug4546@dodo.com.au
Publicity Demo Team	Annette Whiley	02 9716 8648		annette.whiley@det.nsw.edu.au
HD Administrator	Jodie Carroll	0412 980 580		karmay5@bigpond.com
Breed Affairs	Fay Stokes	02 4730 4013	0401 019 213	faystokes1@bigpond.com
Liaison Officer for	Jo Tucker	02 9476 2782		jo@omatel.com
Welfare & Shepherd Rescue				

### Other Contacts

Demo Team	Annette Whiley	02 9716 8648	0402 893 569	annette.whiley@det.nsw.edu.au
State Breed Survey Co-ordinator	Fay Stokes	02 4730 4013	0401 019 213	faystokes1@bigpond.com
Trail Manager	TBA			

### Training Branches

ERSKINE PARK	Terry Jarvis	02 4773 9364	0407 271 418	tepe@bigpond.net.au
CENTRAL COAST	Karen Eaton	02 4375 1211		kareneaton@bigpond.com

For details on Training go to our Website Training Branches Page

## German Shepherd Dog League of NSW Inc Tattoo & Micro Chip Officers

Terry Jarvis	Liverpool	02 4773 9364	0407 271 418	Micro Chip
Graeme Stevenson	Terrey Hills	02 9450 1639		Micro Chip
Nadine McDonald	Blacktown	0404 221 144		Micro Chip
Robert Zammit	Vineyard	02 9627 1257		
Karen Hedberg	Richmond	02 4571 2042		
Grant Morton	Mittagong	02 4883 9578		
Deborah Muir	Lismore	0414 878 079		
Lyn Gregor	Grafton	02 6647 3185		
Marnie Page	Bathurst	02 6337 3858		
Les Francis	Congewai	02 4998 1513		
Michelle Popowski	Gulgong-Hunter Valley	02 6573 3528		

***Country members ensure your local officer has the relevant letters for your tattoo prefix.  
Please give several weeks notice to the tattoo officer.***