

MARCH 2020

THE FLATCOATED RETRIEVER
ASSN. of VIC
FLATCOAT NEWS



The Editor's Creed:

Mistakes are made deliberately. Some people are always looking for errors.....
....the Editor aims to please everyone.

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Above Meaghan O'Shannassy had a nice day at the Canberra Royal Show this year. Ryder aka Ch Skyehaven Ticket To Ride was Best of Breed. Meaghan was very happy with his performance in warm conditions.

INPORTANT NOTICE

The Editor of the Flatcoated Retriever Assn of Victoria Inc. welcomes freelance contribution to the newsletter. Submissions should be typed or neatly written. The authors name should appear on each page. Whilst the editor exercises every care, no responsibility is accepted for errors or omissions that arise during the publishing process, The Association accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of statements nor necessarily agrees with the opinions or statements expressed by freelance contributors



President's Report

Peter Eley OAM



I have much pleasure in presenting the 2019 Annual Report which reflects the strong position of the Association. The Flat Coated Retriever continues its climb in popularity and success around the country; now holding its own in most fields of canine competition.

The Treasurers report will show the Association to be in a sound financial position.

Membership at the end of 2019 showed a drop. The distribution of membership is: 1 in the ACT; 9 in NSW; 1 in the NT and 1 in Queensland. We have 3 in South Australia, 1 in Tasmania, 3 in WA and 22 in Victoria.

The Association has had a quite active year when one considers that we have a quite small committee. The year commenced with the holding of our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 19th March 2019 where the Office Bearers & Committee were elected, reports were received & awards

presented.

Throughout the year we successfully conducted 6 events. On the 29th of June 2019 we held our first event for the year, a Retrieving trial run in partnership with Gippsland Retrieving Club. This trial was well attended.

On the 4th of August 2019 we held our second Retrieving trial for the year at Alexandra. For this trial we partnered with the Labrador Retriever Club of Victoria. Both trials were run with good fields and were well attended.

The 13th of October saw the club running a RATG trial as well as a Beginners Test. These events are always well patronised but unfortunately by other breeds. The only Flatcoated Retrievers competing in these events are Helen and mine.

On Sunday 3rd November 2019 the Association conducted an Open Show and a Championship show. The Open Show attracted 11 entries and was judged by Mrs Rebecca Malseed (Vic). The Championship Show judged by Mrs. S. Dillon (U.S.A.) drew 16 show entries and some special class entries. These entries came from the A.C.T., N.S.W, Western Australia; South Australia and of course, Victoria.

These shows and trials were well supported by members of the Committee and our financial gains were greatly boosted by the sterling efforts of our Secretary and caterer Leanne Tormey.

A summary of the annual awards will be presented to this meeting and will be published in this newsletter. Congratulations to all those who won awards and their dogs whose were awarded their titles and many thanks to all the exhibitors and trial participants who took the time and interest to submit scores and results.

In conclusion I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their dedication and support during the year 2019; without these people there would be no club. To the office bearers Helen Eley, Leanne Tormey and Scott Farquhar and the Committee Kate Eltringham, Sue Farquhar, Noel Eltringham and Simone Wilkie I thank you all personally and on behalf of the membership for your efforts throughout the year.

Peter Eley O.A.M.
President

YOUR COMMITTEE

Office Bearers

President	Peter Eley OAM
Vice President	Kate Eltringham
Secretary	Leanne Tormey
Ass Secretary	Helen Eley
Treasurer	Scott Farquhar
Newsletter Editor	Helen Eley

Committee

Kate Eltringham (Retrieving Trials)
Noel Eltringham (Retrieving Trials)
Sue Farquhar (Assist Treasurer)
Simone Wilkie (Conformation)

Webmaster: Deon Barylak.



My Life is perfect....as long as I'm in it.

Welcome to another year in the life of Flat Coats. It's been a challenging Summer with much of the country experiencing drought, fires, rain and floods. It's easy to look on and feel helpless – especially when friends have lost everything but thankfully not their dogs.

The new year starts full of uncertainties after the fires and floods then the rise of Corona Virus into communities all over the world, this virus seems to be a silent killer and governments are struggling all over the world combating such a virulent disease, Keep safe everyone treat this virus as serious.

Our scheduled Retrieving Trial in May has been cancelled after receiving a directive from Dogs Victoria. There maybe many gazetted dog activities in doubt of running over the coming months, this can be seen as an investment to community health as it is also advised that reduced direct contact be made with individuals in the community.

We start the year with contributions stories from members how they got into the Flat Coated Retriever breed, this concept is the brain child of Gillian Holmes who understands how difficult it is to find content for newsletters, I sent out an email asking for members to send in their stories I got 2, Thank you Jan Burgess from WA and Julee Hosking from Victoria. I too have added a couple of stories.

Congratulations to the winners of the Annual Awards and dogs who have achieved their titles through out 2019, the results are elsewhere in this newsletter. I have consolidated them all on one page, Titles and Annual Awards.

A further Congratulation to Meaghan O'Shannassy for winning Best of Breed at Canberra Royal and Simone Wilkie from Victoria for winning Runner up to Best of Breed. A long way for Simone to drive to give Meaghan some competition.

In reference to the outbreak of Coronavirus there have been a number of Royal cancellations, as it stands I think Canberra Royal will be the only Royal run this year

Sydney member Peter King has been flying around the world on judging appointments, too many to list. Below is a photo of him awarding Best Junior in Show to NZ Champion Angelus-parks Making Magic (Imp PRT).



Congratulation to Peter King for his dog Australian Grand Champion Almanza Double Action Dark Kiss (Imp SWD) won Dogzonline top winning Flat Coat for 2019 NATIONAL BREED LEADER—SHOW DOG OF THE YEAR.



Congratulations to Rhonda William's Aust Ch Injitali Treasure Seeker was awarded NATIONAL LEADER - BREED CHALLENGE COMPETITION WINNER.

Furthermore Australian Champion Blacqlabel Stares N Whisprs owned by S. Wilkie was awarded Breed Rising Star Competition.





A year or two after I had moved into my property at Bridgetown in south western Australia, some new neighbours moved into the property next door; Kevin and Shirley were to become my close friends, and their tiny, Abyssian cat, Miffy, was to become my young Flat Coat's best friend. My liver girl, Megan (Ch Blackregal Fiery Sunset, CCD) was a typical young Flat Coat - rather boisterous, energetic and outgoing - but this didn't seem to bother Miffy, who regularly came over the fence to socialise, sometimes sitting on a chair on the verandah, and allowing Megan to groom her from head to toe - much to my surprise.

A few months later, Miffy was attacked by a local tom cat and sustained a nasty wound on the back of her neck. Kevin and Shirley took her to the Vet who treated her but left the wound uncovered. As soon as they returned home, Miffy came flying over the fence, ran up to Megan and bent her little neck. Megan reached down and very gently she began to lick the wound; she licked and licked and licked the tiny cat's injury for some considerable time. It was quite emotional to watch the bond between the pair and the trust this little cat had in the friend who towered over her, delivering her healing saliva so tenderly.

Jan Burgess



Another story of mine is; I've always been a gardener and I was gardening a vegy patch for our house and the next door neighbours, the land was on the neighbours property & in those days we had no fences between the properties so while I gardened the dogs would come by and eat some of the vegies that I had thrown for the compost heap.

A couple of days later I noticed in one of the girls pens there was what looked like blood in a puddle of urine. So she was rushed of to the vet with a sample. Test for blood via Litmus strips were taken and came up negative, a general health check was performed and everything was normal.

A few days later I was back in the garden throwing spent beetroot to the compost heap, the following day there was a blood like puddle of urine in the pen again, suddenly the penny dropped.....beet root!

Helen Eley



JULEE HOSKING STORY

By Julee Hosking



Above Julee in Central Park Manhattan New York

When I was a kid, we had a black Cocker Spaniel called Texie. A number of years after Texie left us, I was given a Border Collie/Kelpie and, to this day, still reckon he was one of the most intelligent dogs I have ever known. His name was Ruff. I loved that dog and don't think I will ever forget the day Ruff went to the Bridge. After that there was Skip, a Cor-gie/Kelpie. Another smart dog who I spent most of my teenage years with.

As a young newly wed I craved another dog. My husband at that time was a good cricketer and one of the Club's he was thinking about playing for, found out that I liked German Shepherds and offered to get us one if he played for them. Neither of us liked the idea, he didn't play for that Club and we got a golden Cocker Spaniel called Tangles. And that began my love of gun dogs. When Tangles was about two, we got Holly, a black Cocker Spaniel.

Over the years, my first marriage didn't quite go to plan and I met Mike, who loves dogs as much as I do.

I bought Mike a yellow Labrador that we named Ruger. We spent a lot of time doing obedience work with Ruger and it turned out he was one of the funniest, happiest dogs I had ever owned. But he wasn't technically mine! I wanted a dog of my very own and spent hours poring over books on different dog breeds. We even went and checked out Bull Mastiffs and Bouvier De Flanders. But I kept coming back to the gun dogs. Then one day, I found a picture of 4 or 5 black dogs sitting on a hilltop with the wind blowing through their fur. Flatcoated Retrievers!! Never heard of them, but beautiful and I wanted one!

Not long after seeing that picture, I went to a Dog Show with friends, looking for their Belgian Shepherd and I spotted, in the gun dog ring, a black dog with a beautiful long flowing coat. I went and spoke to the owner who met me outside the ring and we sat on the grass and the dog was all over me! Love at first sight! The person was Judy Kennon and the dog was Chance (Mishkador Black Chance?) . Judy invited Mike and I to a Flatcoat get together which was being held on the Kennon property a few weeks later.

I could not wait. That was where I met all these beautiful dogs and lovely people. It was a fabulous day and I put my order in with Peter & Helen Eley who were be going to have a litter on the ground in a matter of months. As it turned out, it didn't happen that quickly and I had to wait a bit longer to get my first Flatcoat, Kellick Black Rook. The wait was well worth it and that's where it started.

Twenty seven or so years on and I now have Cloud and Selkie. I can't imagine NOT having a Flatcoat in my life. They are just the best!





Helen and Peter Eley commenced operating in Victoria under the "Kellick" prefix in 1972; at that time breeding, showing and Obedience with Labrador Retrievers. In 1975 after purchasing a Flat Coated Retriever from Mrs. Dorothy Sutch of the "Duffton" prefix our adventure into the Flat Coat world began. Through that we are now the oldest established Flat Coated Retriever Kennel in Australia.

Our kennel quickly expanded with Mrs. Sutch withdrawing from the Flat Coat scene and her dogs Stonemeade Wild Rose (Imp UK) (Rosa) (one of the first imports in 1974) and Vanrose Black Knight (Imp NZ) moving to the "Kellick" kennel in May roughly 1977. Rosa was in a sorry state when she joined us, she hid in the dark under a table for some weeks, the result was of being over kennelled in her previous home, in fact she gave birth to a litter of pups in that environment, of which consequently died, she must have felt very threatened.



We have found Flat Coats do not cope well when subjected to long lonely stays in the kennel environment. The remnants of that were she had dropped her coat to the extent she was in bald in many parts of her body. In an effort help her recover I used to make massaging concoctions with rosemary & dandelion leaves, plus other stuff I can't remember & all sorts of oils. After work at night Pete & I used to stand her on a grooming table and massage her whole body in an attempt to stimulate hair growth, Pete suggested humorously one night we might end up with ponytails growing out the palms of our hands.

In time Rosa started to recover, we taught her to get up on the lounge instead of hiding down in the dark under her table, every day we would see improvement, her beautiful lush coat started to come through she sparked up in her attitude & was looking good. In July the entries for the Royal Melbourne Championship show had just opened and we wanted to give her a run in it was Breed specialists Jimmy James from UK was to officiate in the Gundog ring. We weren't sure Rosa was up to it, so Pete took her to a little back water show to test her, she was fine so we entered her in the Royal along with her daughter Ch Duffton Just Jo. There was an entry of 5 Flat Coats that year. Rosa showed her little heart out and for that Jimmy James gave her Best of Breed, Dorothy Sutch and her kennel boy were outside the ring to watch her which made it even more special, we were all in tears including the kennel boy who had a special place in his heart for Rosa he said. The judge must have thought we were nuts with our blubbering, but the win was important, it showed us Rosa had recovered and went on to live a lovely life until she was 10 years old, she is buried under our bed room window this where she liked to lay and in this way she always be close to us.

But in her many stories Rosa afforded us she lives on, we bred 2 litters of pups from her, in this she was very much a back-to-nature girl, she insisted on having her pups in a dirt nest underneath some lilac trees, she would carry all 10 puppies from her night quarters to the shade of the trees during the day and at night return them to the night quarters. One summer day we noticed her walking across the with a pup in her mouth going to her night quarters not long after she had gently placed the last puppy a thunderstorm struck followed by heavy tropical style rain, when it stopped we checked the nest it was over flowing with water!

When she had her last litter it was in the winter and freezing cold, we had her and the litter of puppies in the Laundry. We went out one morning and our old 13lb ginger cat Pyewacket was curled up with the pups in the whelping box helping her to keep them warm. Not a lot of bitches would allow this, but she was smart she knew he would be of help. When we are in England still visit the place where she was born and have become good friends with the daughter of her breeder.



Congratulations to the following people for their dogs being awarded titles and annual awards. A lot of time, money and training goes into obtaining these titles so it is important they be acknowledged by the club.

S. WILKIE,
CH. BLACQLABEL STARES N WHISPERS (AI)
VICTORIAN SHOW DOG OF THE YEAR
BEST PUPPY OF BREED OF THE YEAR

P. KING.
AUST GR CH ALMANZA DOUBLE ACTION DARK KISS (IMP SWD)
AUSTRALIAN GRAND CHAMPION
INTERSTATE SHOW DOG OF THE YEAR
500 POINTS CLUB

R. WILLIAMS.
AUST GR CH. INJITALI TREASURE SEEKER
AUSTRALIAN GRAND CHAMPION
500 POINTS CLUB

H & W FREW
TCH KELICK YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE NRD & ORA
CH LAINSTON ST CHARITY NRD MEMORIAL TROPHY

C. CLARKE,
CH. SHEREPOINT LUNAR ECLIPSE AT FIREBUSH
CHAMPION

C. CLARKE
CH. KELICK LIMITED EDITION AT FIREBUSH (AI)
CHAMPION

G. HOLMES
CH. BLACQLABEL SVIAR IMBLACQ
CHAMPION

G. HOLMES
CH. BLACQLABEL SECRET WHISPR

S. WILKIE
Ch BLACQLABEL STARES N WHISPERS
CHAMPION



FLAT COATED RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA Inc.**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 22 MARCH 2020****TREASURER'S REPORT**

2019 was a busy and financially stable year for the Flat Coated Retriever Association of Victoria Inc. The bank balance on the 1st January 2020 was \$12,373.98 compared to \$11,387 for the previous year; this has resulted in a profit of \$986.41.

The rescue fund was not utilised in 2019.

Membership funds received in 2019 totalled \$780.00 compared to \$850.00 for 2018 and \$975.00 in 2017.

Two Retrieving Trials were run in 2019. This raised \$980.54 for the club including \$245.50 raised by Leanne for her catering.

The RATG and Beginners Test raised \$482.29.

The Open and Championship Show was held in 2019. The deficit of \$502.22 was offset by donations from Rhonda Williams, Gillian Joosten Holmes and Leanne Tormey who donated \$250.00, \$200.00 and \$20.00 respectively. This totalled \$470.00 leaving a minor deficit of \$32.22

Thank you to Marilyn Dawson and Jean Bryant for raising \$825.00 in the Club Raffle. Other general monetary donations were gratefully received from Simone Wilkie, Bill Frew and Julie Govan which totalled \$130.00

Registered Tax Agent, Mick Lindsay, audited the club's accounts and found that the accounting records of the association gave a true Record of the financial transactions of the Club and its financial position as at the 31st December 2019.



FLATCOATED RETRIEVER CLUB OF VICTORIA INC

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2020

The membership year is 1 January – 31 December of the year that you join. Memberships received from 1 October will be valid until 31 December of the following year.

If paying by Direct Debit use Member name & Post Code as reference.

This form is not required if paying via Direct Debit , Send personal details via email.

NEW MEMBER-SHIP			
NAME			
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS			
SUBURB		POSTCODE	
POSTAL ADDRESS			
SUBURB		POSTCODE	
TELEPHONE		MOBILE	
EMAIL			
WEBSITE			
DOGS VICTORIA MEMBER (V.C.A.)	Y/N	MEMBERSHIP NUMBER	BREEDER PREFIX (IF APPLICABLE)
OTHER CLUB MEMBERSHIPS?			
NEWSLETTER OPTION	I would like to receive the newsletter via POST / EMAIL. (please indicate)		

SUBSCRIPTION FEES

DUAL MEMBERSHIP	\$25.00	\$
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP	\$20.00	\$
JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP	\$15.00	\$
PUPPY BUYER MEMBERSHIP Only applicable to breeders why are applying for membership on behalf of those who have purchases one of their puppies and is only valid for the first year of their membership.	\$10.00	\$
	TOTAL	

Signed _____ Dated ____/____/____

Payment can be made through Direct Debit, Cheque or Money Order:

Account Name: Flat Coated Retriever Association of Victoria

BSB Number: 033-689 Account Number: 37-0802

Please include your name & post code when depositing through Direct Debit. Cheques and Money orders payable to:

“FLATCOATED RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA”

Any Changes of particulars must be forwarded to:

The Treasurer, 5 Pigeon Bank Road, Warrandyte, Vic, 3113 ph 9844 4617