

MARCH 2022



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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At a Maldon Show judging appointment Jean awarded Runner Up Best in Group to Ch Blacqlabel Stares an Whisprs, owned by Simone Wilkie and bred by Gillian Holmes – he looked lovely and moved well.

**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



Finally we are emerging from the fog of Covid. Dog Shows, Obedience events and Retrieving Trials are again being run and many of our Members are out there flying the Flatcoat flag. Planning is well underway for our Championship Shows that will be held on the last Sunday in October and hopefully conditions around the country will allow interstate competitors to attend, knowing that they will be free to travel home.

Interest in the breed is quite strong at the moment with at least two email inquiries arriving weekly, most people are looking for a family companion which as we know our breed is perfect for the task. Like many organisations the Committee has been meeting "on line" organised by Kate Eltringham and this has proven to be a very successful method of getting things done but it doesn't replace the closeness of all getting together for a meal followed by the meeting. Soon I am sure we will get back to normal and feel free.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022. The meeting will be held via ZOOM. Please contact Peter Eley ([flatcoat@iprimus.com.au](mailto:flatcoat@iprimus.com.au)) to register for the Zoom meeting. We are always on the lookout for Committee Members so if any of our Victorian Members are interested please let us know.

## 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)
Jean Ross (Conformation)

Webmaster: Deon Barylak.



Below competitors waiting for their turn to run their dogs in the competition



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

What a challenge the past two years have been with many dog events being cancelled even in places where the virus wasn't affecting the community, but to bring judges in from other states was impeded by the risks of the state of origin having large outbreaks or locked borders. Lets hope 2022 brings us freedom and health although I still wear a mask in crowded places, paranoia. Is driven by the virus popping up again in other countries.

Below is committee member Kate Eltringham judging at a recent Gundog club retrieving trial in country Alexandra in Victoria. Kate is a very well qualified Championship Retrieving trial judge.

I have a new camera so there was plenty of opportunity to learn how to use it, I must admit I took a few photos of empty bushes and grass in the process, but I learned.



Above President Peter Eley with Sherepoint Midnight in Georgia (Bred by Jean & Ross Bryant) walking up for the shoot. No Live game is used in the execution of the retrieve.



This Kellick Dream Maker (Zoe) having a surf at Anglesea beach recently, Zoe is sister to Merlin the Tassy show winning dog .





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



Ben Evans & Alyx Busoli's  
Champion Kellick Criminal Intent, (Merlin)

They used to say **“It Takes a Village to rear a child”** the same applies to the introduction of Ch Kellick Criminal Intent into the show ring in Tasmania. Many people supported and advised Ben Evans led by Chris Clarke of Firebush Kennels, Toni Drew from the Weimaraners, Maree Pledger from the GSPs, Jean Bryant and Gillian Holmes from Flat Coated Retrievers and others such as fellow competitors. And of course me.

This is Bens first show dog; in the beginning all he wanted was a show Champion, results sees he got a lot more winning some of the higher awards in the show ring which is very *exciting* especially when you are a first time exhibitor. His sire is Ch Moonstruck Walnut (Imp Swd) dam Ch Kellick Whoa Black Betty.

Merlin will be 2 years old in June this year.

Above is Simone Wilkie & Champion Blacqlabel Stares and Whispers. who won a Best in Show in 2021.

Simone says very proud to have received official notification that Nakia ‘Australian Champion Blacqlabel Stares N Whisprs’ finished 2021 as:

- No. 1 Flat Coated Retriever - Show Dog of the Year Competition - Australia
- \* No. 1 Flat Coated Retriever - Show Dog of the Year Competition - Victoria
- \* No. 1 Flat Coated Retriever - Breed Challenge Competition - Victoria
- \*No. 15 Gundog - Show Dog of the Year Victoria
- \*No. 40 Gundog- Show Dog of the Year Australia

Living in the worlds most locked down state this is amazing given that we only showed for 4 months of the year, as I was quite hesitant to re- enter the world after lockdown.

Thanks to the judges who have awarded him so highly and of course to his breeder [Gillian Joosten Holmes](#) Blacqlabel Flat Coats for allowing Nakia to join us at Wilgunndi

If you are of the opinion that dogs have superiority over humans in terms of senses, you are certainly not mistaken! Police forces use canines to sniff out drugs and bombs. There have also been reports of dogs having the ability to [smell cancer within humans](#)! Of all the senses we have in common with dogs, the biggest difference undoubtedly lies in their sense of smell. However, we also look at other senses where dogs appear to have a distinct advantage.

Dogs can also hear noises at [a much higher frequency](#) than humans. While we struggle to hear anything above 23,000 Hertz, dogs can hear noises up to 45,000 Hertz. Interestingly, there is little difference between us at the lower end of the scale. In fact, humans can hear noises as low as 64 Hertz while dogs typically struggle to hear anything below 67 Hertz. Some dogs have as many as 18 muscles in their ears, enabling them to move in the direction of the sound.

### Sense of Smell

While humans tend to view the world in terms of sight, dogs do so with [their sense of smell](#). Although a human brain is ten times larger, the part that controls smell is 40 million times larger in dogs! While we have up to five million scent receptors, dogs can have as many as 300 million, though this varies depending on the breed. So in other words, [there are certain dog breeds](#) that have a sense of smell that is ten million times stronger than that of humans!

Dogs also have a much larger area of nasal membrane than humans and they gather a huge amount of information about their environment, people, and other animals through scent. This is why they are able to [detect illegal drugs](#), cancerous cells, and explosives so effectively. The mucus on a dog's nose helps it to capture scent particles. A dog's nose is so sensitive that it is possible to train them to [detect the blood sugar levels](#) of people with diabetes!

### Sense of Sight

Contrary to popular belief, [dogs are not strictly colorblind](#). It has often been assumed that dogs can only see in shades of black and white, but studies have shown that they can also see in shades of yellow and blue. Humans can actually see objects at a distance and up close better than dogs, but canines have an advantage when it comes to seeing things at dawn and at dusk. Studies have also shown that dogs see moving objects more clearly than humans and this helps them to hunt prey.



### Sense of Hearing

Although we associate dogs with exceptional hearing, did you know that [puppies are actually born deaf](#) and can't hear until they are 21 days old? Of course, once their sense of hearing develops, it far surpasses that of a human. In fact, your dog should be able to hear noises from four times the distance of a person with average hearing capabilities.



## PUPPIES ASSEMBLY

Submitted by Helen Eley

This is something everyone should see.

When you get your 8/10 week old puppies, please keep this image in mind. Their bones do not even touch yet. They plod around so cutely with big floppy paws and wobbly movement because their joints are entirely made up of muscle, tendons, ligaments with skin covering. Nothing is fitting tightly together or has a true socket yet.

When you run them excessively or don't restrict their exercise to stop them from overdoing it during this period you don't give them a chance to grow properly. Every big jump or excited bouncing run causes impacts between the bones. In reasonable amounts this is not problematic and is the normal wear and tear that every animal will engage in.

But when you're letting puppy jump up and down off the lounge or bed, take them for long walks/hikes, you are damaging that forming joint. When you let the puppy scramble on tile with no traction you are damaging the joint.

You only get the chance to grow them once. A well built body is something that comes from excellent breeding and a great upbringing-BOTH, not just one.





Cabal 2021



Awesome day at Braidwood Show. Ry-der took out Runner Up to Best in Group! Good boy. Lovely day there this year too, unlike the rain last year.

Royal Canberra Show 27th Feb 2022

Ch Skyehaven Devil At Play

Owned by: Megan O'Shannassy (ACT)

Breeder: Tina Corbell



Results 2021 to 2022

12 February 2022 - Sapphire Coast Kennel and Obedience Club

Best Intermediate in Group

18 December 2021 - Dogs NSW Public Relations Committee Christmas Show

Best in Group and Best Intermediate in Group

10 December 2021 - Wagga Wagga Kennel All Breeds Kennel Club (show 1)

Best Intermediate in Group

Coolamon Ganmain Kennel Club

Best Intermediate in Group (show 2)

21 November 2021 - Goulburn Dog Training & Kennel Club

Best Intermediate in Group

23 May 2021 - Ku-Ring-Gai Kennel Club

Best Junior in Group (and last points for Champion )

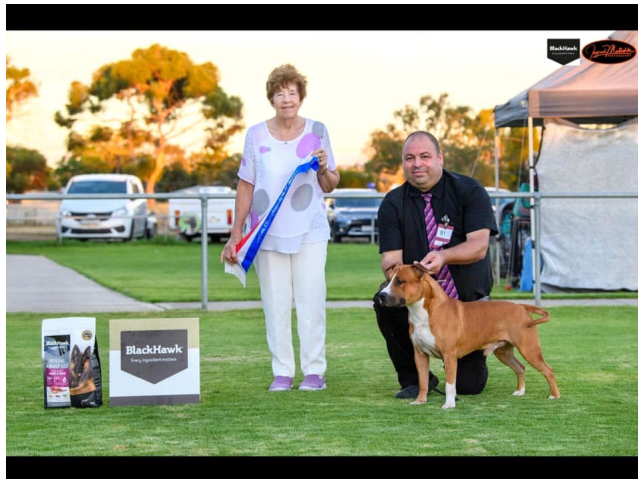
24 April 2021 National Capital Kennel Club

Best Junior in Group

5 March 2021 - Goulburn AP & H Society

Best Junior in Group





Towards the end of the year 2021 Tina Corbell was showing Ch Skyehaven Man on Fire (Denzel) and he was doing well. He gained his Grand Championship and was also Runner Up in Group that day, a great bonus after he had gained his Grand title – well deserved. Tina has started showing her two new babies (puppies now) – very special babies from her boy Dare. So good to see more flatcoats in the ring. We haven't been at shows since November as Annie was pregnant. She had 11 puppies on 9 December 2021 – 3 days early, all black, 7 boys and 4 girls, to our boy Gr Ch Sherepoint Kentucky Bluegrass. Although it was hard work, they were an easy litter to raise, very content puppies – great fun trying to clean up with 4 or 5 puppies hanging onto the cuffs of your jeans. 5 have stayed in SA, 4 went to WA, 1 to NSW and 1 to Qld. Three trips to the airport, and one I had to be at the airport at 4.30 in the morning. Like other breeders we were inundated with enquiries and orders for pups and several went to people who had dogs from us before. It is good to see there are two kennels who have litters due soon.

I was fortunate to judge for the Maldon Kennel Club in Melbourne in December 2021 – Gundogs in the morning and Terriers in the afternoon. The Bulla showgrounds looked so good, lots of work has been done since I was last there. I had 134 Gundogs to judge including 5 flat Coated retrievers. My Best in Group winner was a Weimaraner, and I was pleased to award Runner Up Best in Group to Ch Bacqlabel Stares an Whisprs, owned by Simone Wilkie and bred by Gillian Holmes – he looked lovely and moved well. Challenge

bitch and Runner Up Best of Breed was Injitali Forever Young owned and bred by Rhonda Williams – a very nice young bitch. My Best Baby in Group was Injitali Toblerani Sydney – a lovely baby and so well behaved well done Rhonda. After the group I was interested to see Pre Judging of my group winners by the Best in Show judge – evidently a time saving feature, when other groups are taking a while to complete and there is another show to follow the morning one. I have never seen that done before.

After the morning show I managed a quick word with Simone and Rhonda, who I hadn't seen for a couple of years. Later I also managed to catch up with Kirstin Henderson and her boy Merry. In the afternoon I judged some lovely terriers, including breeds I had never judged before – which was good, my Best in Group a Wirehaired Fox Terrier went on to win Best in Show. I was well looked after by the Maldon Kennel Club and thoroughly enjoyed my day and accommodation provided overnight by Sylvano Cassingena.

Jean Bryant





# FLATCOATED RETRIEVER CLUB OF VICTORIA INC

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2022

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.

<b>NEW MEMBER-</b>			
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 OP-	I would like to receive the newsletter via POST / EMAIL. (please indicate)		

### SUBSCRIPTION FEES

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

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