

20TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

The Flatcoated Retriever Association Of Victoria Inc.



August 2023

Dogs Victoria Magazine Featured the Flatcoated Retriever



Flatcoat News Highlights

**Dogs Victoria Feature
the Flatcoated
Retriever**

**Simone Wilkie's
President's Report**

Christmas Catch Up

Puppy Care

**Hip, Elbow and
Eyes Scores**

DNA Health Testing

FCRAV Committee

**The Editor of the FCRAV
Newsletter welcomes
submissions.**

**Unfortunately, no
responsibility is accepted for
errors or omissions.**

**The Association accepts no
responsibility for the
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20TH SEPTEMBER 2023

SIMONE WILKIE - PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Flat Coats continue to do well around Australia in many dog sports. Special congratulations to team Jordan 'Alubyc O for Obsidian' who was awarded Best Baby Puppy In Group at the EKKA - Brisbane Royal Show. I'd also like to offer congratulations to Theresa and Wayne Parkinson who have returned to the show ring with a Flat Coat after many years and were awarded Best In Group down in Gippsland. Congratulations also to other winners around the states including lovely dogs from Kellick, Injitali, Blacqlabel and Starflatz who are regular winners in the show scene. Congratulations also to Kimmie Brett's team who continue to excel in Scentwork and obedience. We'd love to hear about all your wins and other adventures so please feel free to share for our next newsletter.

I hope you are all well and enjoying the hint of spring as the weather warms up.

It's a great time to get out and about with your Flat Coats, however, it's also the time that snakes start to get out and about particularly in our parklands and around waterways. Take care and familiarise yourselves with basic first aid for snake bites and don't forget to take your phone so that you can access help quickly.

Dogs Victoria featured the Flat Coat in their August magazine. It was nice to see a Flat Coat on the front cover, as shown on the front cover of our newsletter. It was a bit of a shame that local dogs were not featured.

We have shared the content in our newsletter.



Alubyc O for Obsidian
Vowell/Kershaw/Morphet/Landy/Shield

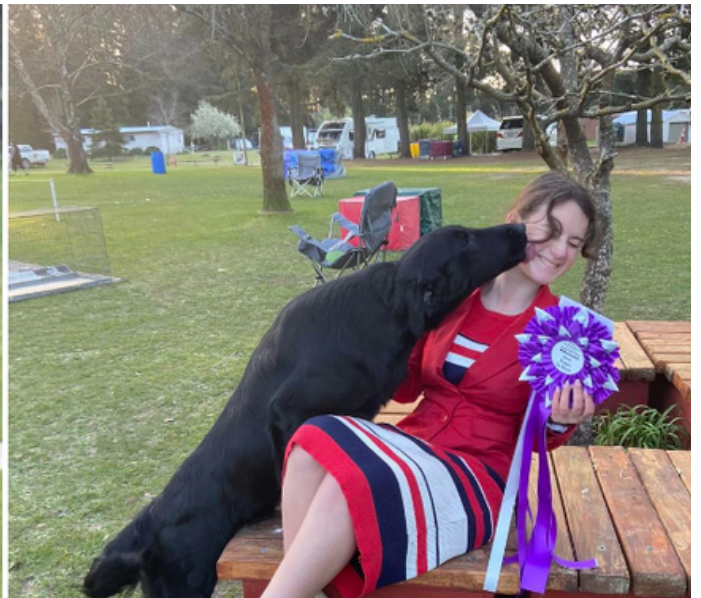
What does a Flat-coat and Aussie Rules football have in common?



The 24th of September 2022 was a momentous day for our President Simone at Wilgunndi Flat Coated Retrievers, described as one of the best days of her life!

Simone attended the AFL Grand Final with her Mum to watch her beloved Cats play the Sydney Swans. After supporting the Cats to victory, Simone returned home to spend the evening and all night welcoming two precious male Flatcoat puppies into the world. Mum Gracie 'Wilgunndi Into Temptation' produced a small but wonderful litter of two healthy boys. Still high from the Grand Final win, the puppies were immediately named after Premiership heroes Tom 'Hawkins' and Joel 'Sel' Selwood. Tom and Sel's pedigree names were later confirmed as Wilgunndi Captain Australia (Tom Hawkins was named Captain of the All-Australian Team) and Wilgunndi Grand Finale (Joel Selwood retired on Grand Final day). It has been wonderful to hear that Sel's winning ways have continued with some lovely wins over in his new home at Arangold with the Heans.

Sel is seen in these photos with Margaret's granddaughter Anya who has developed a wonderful relationship with Sel as is clearly shown in the pics.





This year has been a quiet year for the club, as we are not proposing to hold a Championship Show this year and unfortunately, our Retrieving Ability Test for Gundogs (RATG) has been cancelled. We will be back next year with our dual Championship Shows in November and a RATG.

Christmas Walk in the Park
In an effort to catch up with some of our members, the Flat-Coated Retrievers Club are proposing a

CHRISTMAS CATCHUP with fun Christmas games

ON SUNDAY - 17TH DECEMBER - FROM 10-12 PM

It would be great if you could join us
please respond to

publicity.fcra@gmail.com
or jean.m.ross@hotmail.com



Caring for your Puppy

As Flatcoat owners we keep at our heart, the preservation, protection and promotion of the Flatcoat breed in Australia. This starts with understanding how to care for your puppies.

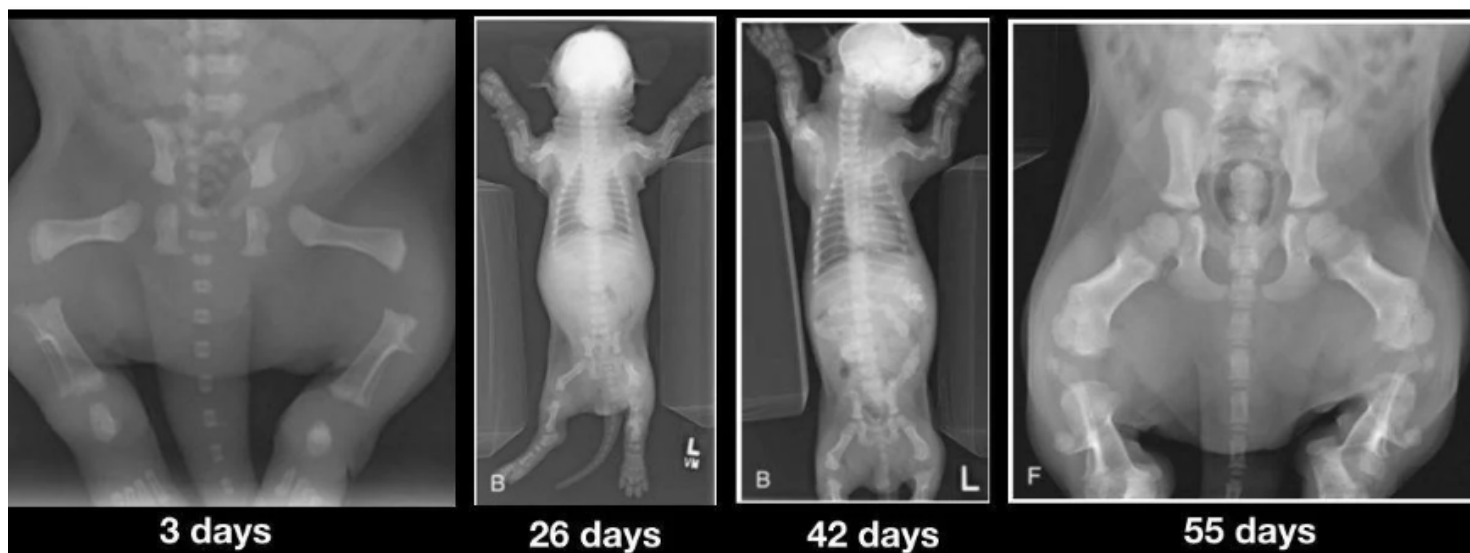
This is an X-ray image of puppy bones - which are a collection of muscles, tendons, and ligaments covered in skin. They turn into bone between 12 and 18 months.

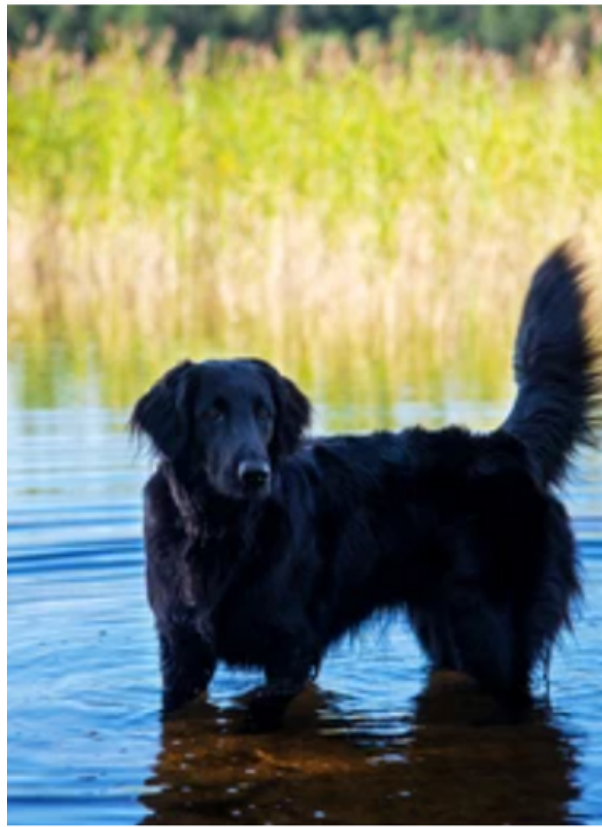
Puppies plod around with a wobbly movement because their bones do not touch and there are no true sockets.



High-impact activities such as jumping off of heights and vigorous play should be avoided until the growth plates fuse and turn into bone.

Your dog's healthy body comes from excellent breeding, the correct diet, and understanding what is required to keep your puppy healthy and safe.





Hip, Elbow, and Eye Scores

Flatcoats cannot be bred with unless they have had their hip and elbows scored through the Canine Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Scheme. Hip, elbows, and eye scores are necessary to maintain Australian National Kennel Club (ANKC) breeding standards.

The above are assessed through your vet.

Below is the current Median ANKC hip score for Flatcoated Retrievers.

Flat Coated Retriever	4.12	4.00	41
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Elbows - are scored from 0-3

It is strongly recommended that any dog with a score from 1-3 in one or both elbows are not used for breeding.

The Australian National Kennel Club keep a record of the hereditary Eye Conditions. Goniodysgenesis - G

Flat Coated Retriever	G
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Canine Goniodysgenesis is one of two primary forms of glaucoma that describe a condition where the fluid in the eye is not draining properly. Immediate treatment is necessary to avoid the onset of glaucoma and vision loss. Options for treatment include medications and surgery.

Currently, it cannot be detected by DNA testing.

There is an eye exam that looks for signs that the eye has been affected by a painful and blinding disease known as primary glaucoma or Goniodysgenesis. How much the eye is infected is given as a grade.

Grade	Gonioscopic findings	Breeding Advice
0	Normal iridocorneal angle (ICA) with no/minimal (0%-<1%) pectinate ligament abnormality (PLA)	Advice: Normal iridocorneal angle - highly unlikely to develop primary glaucoma Suitable for breeding
1	1-25% of ICA affected by PLA	Advice: mildly affected - unlikely to develop primary glaucoma Suitable for breeding
2	26-75% of ICA affected by PLA	Advice: moderately affected - low risk of developing primary glaucoma Breed specific advice required if breeding considered
3	>75% of ICA affected, and/or severe narrowing of ICA	Advice: severely affected - highest risk of developing primary glaucoma Not recommended for breeding



DNA Testing for Genetic Diseases

Many diseases that your pets can suffer from are due to mutations and alterations in the animal's genome sequence. The results of the pet health DNA test with information on genetic and heritage diseases in animals identify whether your pet is a carrier, that is, whether it has a variant associated with these diseases in its DNA.

A DNA screening can test for 250+ markers to find any genetic variant associated with diseases. Various DNA screening companies can be found online

RATG - HAS BEEN DELAYED UNTIL 2024.

Wishing Kate Eltringham a speedy recovery from her knee surgery.

The Retrieving Ability Tests for Gundogs is an introductory step into retrieving, testing basic obedience, with two levels of ability - Novice and Open.

Open tests have more complicated concepts including double retrieves. Both Registered and Associate gundogs are allowed to compete in these trials.

The Novice level is judged out of 100 points and includes obedience and retrieving components.

The obedience part of the test is not as demanding as the novice level of obedience trials; it is intended to demonstrate that owners have their dog under control.

The first exercise consists of dogs walking at heel for 20-30m. (10 Points) and the second exercise is a recall (15 Points).

The retrieving component consists (Exercise Three and Four) of two single mark retrieves of approximately 50 metres (30 Points) and 70 metres (35 Points) each, and may include land and water. Dogs are allocated up to 10 points for Style and Action.



Committee Members

President	Simone Wilkie	Vice President	Peter Eley
Secretary	Leanne Tormey	Asst Secretary	Helen Eley
Treasurer	Scott Farquhar	Asst Treasurer	Sue Farquhar
Retrieving Trials	Kate Eltringham	Retrieving Trials	Noel Eltringham
Publicity	Jean Ross	Com. Member	Alys Mayes

Any contributions or suggestions for future newsletters will be gratefully received. Share with us your special experience with your special flat coat.