



Command News

August-September 2011

Command Dog Training School Web Site: www.dogtraining.com.au



TIME FOR ACTION

by Basil Theofanides

In reference to this latest dog attack that tragically left a young 4 year old dead and another with facial injuries, I support the action our state government is taking to ensure the breed and crosses of its sort are registered and comply with stringent ownership regulations. These include being muzzled in public, only allowed on-lead, wearing an identifiable 'dangerous dog' collar and being housed in a child-proof enclosure in the back yard. It must be noted that these Dangerous Dog Laws were enacted in 1996 under the Domestic (feral and nuisance) Animals Act 1994. They have always been in place but now they have been applied as mandatory regulations for pit-bull breeds and its crosses.

With reference to the dog in question, presuming the dog was a pit bull (only DNA testing will tell us that), as a Restricted Breed in Victoria, the investigators need to find the source of purchase and lay further charges to the breeders/sellers of these dangerous animals.

The origins of the pitbull stem from England. The dog was brought to America in the 1800's and used to herd cattle and also to hunt wild pigs. Due to its strength and ferocity, the dog was used in pit-fights. Consequently, these dog have been bred for one purpose – to fight. They have a biting force of about 235 lbs per square inch (PSI) on the old scale (although there have been news reports in USA of 2000 PSI) and in comparison a Labrador bites at around 125 psi. But the fact remains, this dog escaped its backyard, entered another property and immediately / instinctively attacked the young girl, demonstrates this dog was a ticking time bomb. Some animal lovers will be saying penalise "the deed not the breed". However, when the "breed" is more often than not associated with these attacks, it is time to take further action and ban the breed nationwide.

Basil is a professional dog trainer of over 25 years and provides training for Animal Management Officers and pet industry workers on dealing with aggressive dogs www.thedogtrainer.com.au

New Legislation on Restricted Breeds in Victoria

Within the "Approved Standard" American Staffordshire Terriers are not considered Restricted Breed Dogs, if the owner has one of the following certificates stating that the dog is an American Staffordshire Terrier—

- a pedigree certificate from the Australian National Kennel Council;
- a pedigree certificate from a member body of the Australian National Kennel Council;
- a pedigree certificate from a national breed council registered with the Australian National Kennel Council; or
- a certificate signed by a veterinary practitioner stating, or to the effect, that the dog is of a particular breed.

[More info >>](#)

www.dpi.vic.gov.au/animalwelfare

Just For Dogs Warm in Winter

Dogzone day care is heated for your dogs comfort. **Dogzone** dogs are given a maintenance brush before going home to help maintain their coats condition minimising the amount of hair loss at home. All you need to do is take your dog home, feed and love it.

Exercise, play, daytime companionship and brushing will have already taken place.

DogZone is based at 53-55 North St Richmond and is owned and managed by professional dog trainer Sally Chan.

P: 9427 9888

E: sally@dogzone.com.au

W: www.dogzone.com.au



The Animal Liberation Op Shop

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The Views Expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the director of Command Dog Training School Pty Ltd or it's staff

Readers Page



"Nicky and Terry have had Vivi since she was a fat little 8 week old pup. They thought they were getting a cross between a black Labrador and a tri-colour border collie. After about two weeks the floppy ears sprung up and as time went by, and as evidenced by a propensity to round up other dogs, chasing balls at the park, it became quite clear that they in fact had a very active little kelpie.

Now three years old she has been with **Command Dog Training School** since a young pup and as a result of a suggestion by instructor Michelle Nugent that she may benefit from further stimulus over and above general obedience classes, Vivi has been regularly taken to herd sheep at a small farm just an hour or so out of Melbourne.

It is one of her favourite pastimes together with Frisbee catching and stick rescue at St Kilda beach. She burns of her energy with a daily run at the beach in the morning and chasing other dogs at the park in the afternoon - generally border collies or other kelpie types. Over the past two years she has participated in the kelpie triathlon at the annual Casterton Kelpie Muster but alas without much success. Until recently she has been accompanying Nicky into work by train in the Melbourne CBD."

****Thank you Nicky & Terry for your story ****

NO CLASSES

Due to the September School Holidays, no classes will be held from **Monday 26 September to Saturday 1 October**. Our office will still be running during this period.



A healthy pet for life
NATURE'S GIFT

Here is our newest addition to the 700g range! Coming soon to Franklins and IGA supermarkets. Will keep you all posted!

A recent investigation into the presence of sulphur dioxide in pet food has spurred a number of people to ask whether Nature's Gift products contain this ingredient.

We are pleased to inform all of our loyal customers that our entire product range does **NOT** contain sulphur dioxide!

Easy Liver Treat

- 2 lambs fry
- 1 cup of plain flour
- 2 dessertspoons vegetable oil
- 1 cup of water

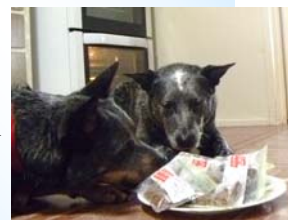
Heat oven to 120 gas or electric

Cut liver in pieces add water and oil then puree. Place in a large bowl, add flour and mix well. Lightly grease a tray 15 x11 inch Pour the mixture in the tray, and spread the mixture evenly to all corners of the tray.. Prick the top of the mixture with a fork

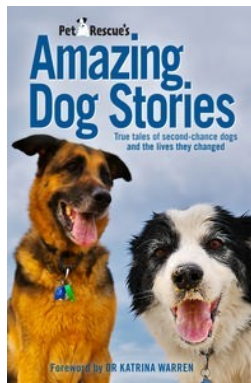
Place in oven for 1 hour .. Cut into small pieces when cool... Place in small plastic bags. These can be frozen

Cost \$5

Makes enough treats for one month of training two dogs....



Must Read



This uplifting collection brings together over 100 original stories of canine survival, loyalty and unconditional love. These dogs have overcome troubled backgrounds to bring joy, companionship and adventure to the lives of their new families. There's Fudge, who braved a house fire to save his owner; Barnaby, Australia's saddest dog, who conquered severe agoraphobia after being mistreated; the tale of a real-life Milo and Otis; Dusty's special bond with his eleven-year-old best mate; and Sasha, the three-legged assistant ambulance driver. There are also stories of doggie heroics, quirky skills and friendships that were just meant to be. PetRescue keeps tails wagging by helping over 25 000 dogs each year find their new best friend. These stories come from volunteers, vets, as well as pets' adopted families and show how relationships with dogs can enrich our lives.

This book which will be published on 3 October 2011 with all royalties going towards [PetRescue](#).

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Please email me should you have a story or anything that you would like to see in our newsletter

**Thanks again Nicky and Terry for contributing to our newsletter **