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Special points of interest:

- T Ch Fernamber Edynn TSDX CCD earned her Track & Search Dog Excellent title
- T Ch Fernamber Lantaana TSD CD earned her Companion Dog title.
- T Ch Fernamber Lantaana TSD CD qualified for her Track & Search Dog Test 4
- Fernamber Tambourine CDX NRD earned a pass in the new discipline of Heelwork to Music

Inside this issue:

Vestibular Disease	2
Fast Facts	2
Multiplication	2
The Dog on the Tuckerbox	3
So You Think You Know Everything?	3
The Internet Cafe	3
Puppy Helps Autistic Boy to Speak	4

Fernamber Off Lead

Welcome to our Summer Issue



Teagan, Paddington, Shamrock, Ashley, Lara, Chantelle, Chloe, Avalon, Piper and Daniel

Welcome to 2012! We wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas. Teagan and I went to a fabulous doggy Christmas party hosted by Hairy Cherubs dog grooming where Santa had all the dogs (except the big ones) on his knee and gave them treats and a hug!

Ashley and her littermates were 10 years old on 29 September and she celebrated with her human and doggy family with a chocolate mud cake!

Teagan has been in the wars. In October she suffered a bout of Vestibular Disease and it seemed to take forever for her to improve. Now it is grass seed season again and she has had two operations to remove seeds from her ears. Luckily she is recovering well.

Scarlett. T Ch Fernamber Lantaana TSD CD qualified for her Track & Search Dog Test 4 in September and followed that with her Companion Dog title in November.

Edynn, T Ch Fernamber Edynn TSDX CCD, earned her Track & Search Dog Excellent title in October.

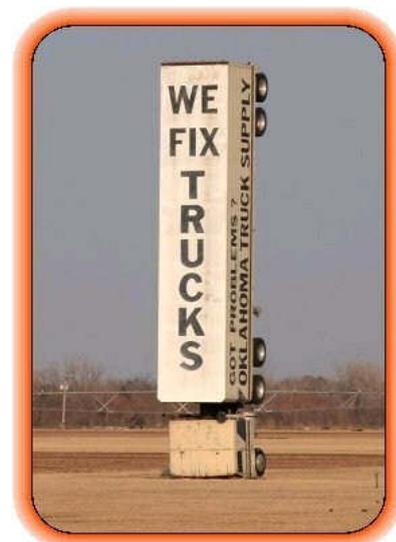
And Meg, Fernamber Tambourine CDX

NRD, earned a pass in the new discipline of Heelwork to Music.

On a much sadder note, on 15 November 2011 Clive's mother Irene passed away and we are all missing her presence.

Margaret, Orla and Lexie are also missing their good friend Jaimee.

A part of life but not so easy to accept.



Vestibular Disease

The vestibular apparatus is the neurological equipment responsible for perceiving one's body's orientation relative to the earth (determining if you are upside-down, standing up straight, falling etc.) and informing one's eyes and extremities how they should move accordingly. The vestibular apparatus allows us to walk, even run, on very uneven ground without falling, helps us know when we need to right ourselves, and allows our eyes to follow moving objects without becoming dizzy. If there is trouble in the vestibular apparatus, then you may not properly perceive your orientation. You won't know which way is up, whether or not you are standing up straight or slanted, and you will feel very dizzy. The following are signs of vestibular disease:

- Ataxia (lack of coordination - in other words, stumbling and staggering around).
- Motion sickness.
- Nystagmus (back and forth or rotational eye movements).
- Circling (usually toward the side of the lesion).
- Head tilt (usually toward the side of the lesion).
- Falling to one side (usually toward the side of the lesion).

Canine idiopathic vestibular disease begins acutely and resolves acutely. Usually improvement is evident in 72 hours and the animal is normal in 7-14 days, possibly with an occasional head tilt persisting. Treatment of idiopathic vestibular disease generally involves control of nausea (motion sickness) while the condition runs its course.



Milou showing a vestibular head tilt.

www.marvistavet.com/html/body_vestibular_disease.html

Fast Facts

The Canary Islands were not named for a bird called a canary. They were named after a breed of large dogs. The Latin name was Canariae insulae - "Island of Dogs."

The expression "three dog night" originated with the Eskimos and means a very cold night - so cold that you have to bed down with three dogs to keep warm.

The first dog to star in an American movie was Jean the Vitagraph Dog, a Border Collie mix, who made his first film in 1910.

The first dogs to hunt in packs and the first small companion breeds were probably bred in ancient China. Written records

more than 4,000 years old from China show that dog trainers were held in high esteem and that kennel masters raised and looked after large numbers of dog.

The first seeing-eye dog was presented to a blind person on April 25, 1938.

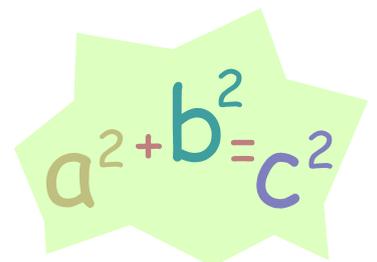
The largest and the smallest dogs to live in the White House where both there during the tenure of president James Buchanan. The president had a Newfoundland named Lara. And his niece, Harriet Lane (who served as White House hostess because the president was unmarried), had a tiny toy terrier named Punch.

"A "three dog night" as used by the Eskimos means a night so cold that you need to bed down with three dogs to keep warm."

Multiplication

What did the dog get when he multiplied 497 by 684?

The wrong answer!



What does it add up to?

The Dog On The Tuckerbox

Like much of Australia's early folklore, the origins of the Dog on the Tuckerbox are clouded in mystery, uncertainty and controversy. Yet, as with 'Waltzing Matilda', its origins lie firmly in the Australian bush and the early pioneers - who in this case forged west and south from Sydney, following the explorers searching for the source of the Murrumbidgee River. Numbers of them took up holdings in the Gundagai district in the period 1830-50.

They were hard and hazardous times with supplies and stores having to be transported along makeshift tracks over rough terrain by bullock teams. To pass the time while often being bogged, or waiting for the river level to fall at crossings such as Muttama Creek near Gundagai, 'bullockies' would recite doggerel and

rhymes picked up on their travels - and, sometimes, even write a few lines.

Often the bullocky's dog would sit guarding its master's tuckerbox and possessions while he was away seeking help. So was the legend of 'The Dog on the Tuckerbox' born in the 1850s. Whoever the author (using the pen name 'Bowyang Yorke'), the verse was amended some time later by Jack Moses. Its popularity quickly spread, capturing the imagination of Australians both in the bush and throughout the colony. Though the legend was also immortalised by Jack O'Hagan in 1937 in his popular song that put Gundagai on the world map, controversy continued over the exact location of the monument - 5 or 9 miles from the town - and later, on whether to move the famous monument closer to the town.



Prime Minister Joe Lyons unveiling the Dog in 1932

So You Think You Know Everything?

STEWARDESSES is the longest word typed with only the left hand and LOLLIPOP with your right.

No word in the English language rhymes with MONTH, ORANGE, SILVER or PURPLE.

DREAMT is the only English word that ends in the letters MT.

The sentence: THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG uses every letter of the alphabet.

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: ABSTEMIOUS and FACETIOUS.

The words RACECAR, KAYAK, and LEVEL are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).

STRENGTH is the longest word in English with only one vowel.

There are only four words in the English language which end in DOUS: TREMENDOUS, HORRENDOUS, STUPENDOUS and HAZARDOUS.

TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.

The Internet Cafe

A Golden Retriever and a Dalmatian were sitting in an internet cafe when the Dalmatian said to the Golden Retriever, "Hey, check out my web site!"

The Golden Retriever asked for the address and the Dalmatian responded, "www.dalmation.dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot"



"www.what?"

The Newsletter from
Fernamber Golden Retrievers

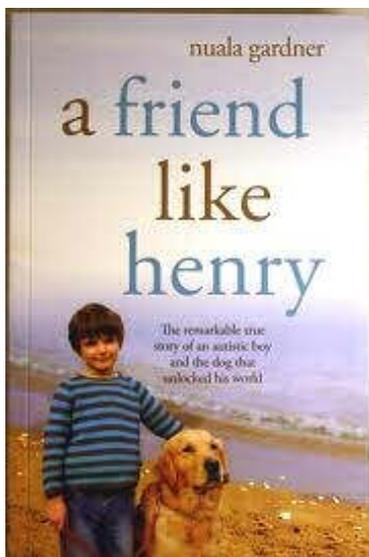
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*Golden Retrievers are
the Clever Companions*

See our previous issues at
www.fernamber.com/page9.html



Puppy Helps Autistic Boy to Speak

GREENOCK, Scotland Dale Gardner, 18, learned how to speak and form relationships thanks to Henry, a Golden Retriever. Together, they defied medical opinion to allow Dale to attend a mainstream school, obtain seven Standard Grades, go to college and lead a "normal" teenage life.

The amazing tale has been turned into heartwarming ITV1 drama *After Thomas* and his mum is writing a book, *Talking To Henry*, to give hope to other families.

Dale, of Greenock, Renfrewshire, said: "Henry was sent to help me and now life is good and I'm in college. He was the key that unlocked my mind."

Dale was born prematurely and his parents - Nuala, a community nurse, and Jamie - immediately knew something was wrong. He was a passive child and refused to cry. But while others marvelled at the "model baby," the Gardners knew that Dale was not developing normally.

They worked around the clock to encourage him to say his first words but he refused to connect and remained aloof.

It was only when he had a screaming tantrum at a nurse's party when he was two that the Gardners discovered he had autism. Nuala said: "Someone suggested autism and I rushed straight to the library because I knew nothing about it. As I turned the pages, it was chilling. He had every symptom."

The couple dealt with the condition as best they could - but their lives were transformed six months later, during a visit to relatives. As soon as Dale saw the family's dog, he was entranced and spent the entire visit playing fetch with the pet.

The next day, his parents brought home Henry, the Golden Retriever.

The couple were in bed when they heard a noise drifting up the stairs and they were stunned to discover that Dale was talking for the first time - to the puppy.

Nuala said: "It was a revelation. We couldn't believe it. We had never heard him speak before - not even mama or dada and here he was chattering."

Dale added: "I started out by telling him that he was a good boy and playing fetch. Then I built up a really close bond with him, shared my feelings and my problems."

Sadly, Henry recently died, but Dale was careful to get a new pup - Henry 2 - to continue his incredible journey.

Bill Welsh, chairman of the Autism Treatment Trust, said: "It is a wonderful tale and I am delighted for him and his family. Unfortunately, not all children can be helped in this way."

(Source: Daily Record, December 16, 2006)

A Friend Like Henry by Nuala Gardner