Sleigh Courier

The Samoyed Club Incorporated Spring 2011

A couple of photos from the Sammy Walk held at the end of July, more inside...

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Membership Fees 2011

Subscriptions are due annually on 1st January each year.

Single	$22.00
Double	$26.00
Junior (under 17)	$12.00

$5.00 per year postage surcharge for non-NZ addresses.

The "Sleigh Courier" is published four times a year:
Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer.

A copy of the magazine is available to members via email. Please contact the Editor for details.

Deadline for Summer/Christmas issue: Friday, 03 December 2011

Advertising Rates

Full Page (black & white)	**$15**
Half Page (black & white)	**$ 8**
Sam Ads	**$ 5**
Breeders/Stud Directory	**$ 5**
Mating and Litter Notifications	**$ 5**
Vales	**Free**

NOTE: Colour advertising is available on request. Please contact the Editor for prices.

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Inside this issue

Congratulations!!

A huge congratulations to Helen Clark and Rob Barzey of Oscarbi Samoyeds on the birth of their son Ethan!

Oops! In the winter Sleigh Courier one of the photos from the Open Show was incorrectly paired with the caption.

Here is a correct photo and recipient of Intermediate in Show: **CH SUNSHINE BJ'S DREAM** (Shugg)

Welcome to a new member

Matthew Ngapeka

May your membership be long and enjoyable.

Editorial

Quite a few interesting articles in this issue of the magazine, a huge thanks to Lauren, the previous editor, who contributed many of them and has helped get me on track with the editor role.

The first weekend of November was the Pet Expo in Wellington and definitely the Samoyeds got a lot of attention with people asking questions about them which was great. The other Spitz Breeds had their fair share of interested people too (we had a stand with the Spitz Breeds Club). A long and busy weekend with humans and dogs very tired at the end of it (for the dogs we brought along getting pats and tummy rubs was exhausting!) but hopefully everyone thought it was worth it.

The last Sunday of November, the 27th of November, is the annual Snow Dogs Match Day where the Samoyeds go up against the Siberian Huskies and Alaskan Malamutes (schedule on page 10). A great day out with some fun competition between the breeds and hopefully we see a lot of Sammies there.

Other than that, enjoy this issue and as always if anyone has any suggestions for events or fundraising please get in touch, or if you have any submissions (articles, stories or photos, anything!) for the Summer/Christmas issue please feel free to send them in, as it's really great to be getting submissions from members to share amongst the club.

Sarah Piper
Editor

Breed Of Year Points as at 10/10/2011

Baby Puppy - Dog	
Sunshine As I'm Rupert (Shugg)	9
Puppy - Dog	
Zaminka Man On A Mission (Carleton / Bello)	74
Junior - Dog	
Lealsam Logans Allure (Reeve)	67
Sunshine Tri Teddy (Shugg)	24
Ch Mezen Justa StormTrooper (Imp Aust) (Carleton / Bello)	17
Intermediate - Dog	
Ch Blue Aegean Leventis From Snowsapphire (Imp UK) (Yau)	72
Ch Zaminka Finest Hour (Carleton / Bello)	7
NZ Bred - Dog	
Sunshine Tri Teddy (Shugg)	48
Ch Zaminka Power Sunrise (Asplet)	12
Ch Zaminka Finest Hour (Carleton / Bello)	11
Open - Dog	
GR Ch Lealsam Hugo Boss (Reeve)	100
NZ/CAN/USA/ENG Ch Vanderbilts One Cool Cat (Imp Can) (Carleton)	71
Ch Wytekloud Flash Zam N Kabam (McRae)	29
Ch Zaminka Power Sunrise (Asplet)	17
Best Dog	
GR CH Lealsam Hugo Boss (Reeve)	91
NZ/CAN/USA/ENG CH Vanderbilts One Cool Cat (Imp Can) (Carleton)	60
Ch Blue Aegean Leventis From Snowsapphire (Imp UK) (Yau)	46
Sunshine Tri Teddy (Shugg)	28
Lealsam Logans Allure (Reeve)	18
Ch Wytekloud Flash Zam N Kabam (McRae)	13
Ch Mezen Justa StormTrooper (Imp Aust) (Carleton)	12
Zaminka Man On A Mission (Carleton / Bello)	7
Ch Zaminka Finest Hour (Carleton)	6
Ch Zaminka Power Sunrise (Asplet)	3
Best Representative	
GR Ch Lealsam Hugo Boss (Reeve)	161
NZ/CAN/USA/ENG Ch Vanderbilts One Cool Cat (Imp Can) (Carleton)	75
Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	20
Ch Zaminka Diamonds Forever (Carleton / Bello)	19
Lealsam Logans Allure (Reeve)	16
Ch Blue Aegean Leventis From Snowsapphire (Imp UK) (Yau)	13
Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	11
Zaminka Man On A Mission (Carleton / Bello)	10
Ch Mezen Justa StormTrooper (Imp Aust) (Carleton / Bello)	8
Ch Zaminka Power Ball (Carleton / Bello)	4
CH Wytekloud Flash Zam N Kabam (McRae)	2
Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (Yau)	2
Sunshine Tri Teddy (Shugg)	2
Zaminka Belle O Th Ball (Carleton / Bello)	2
Ch Zaminka Finest Hour (Carleton / Bello)	2
Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	2
Best Baby Puppy Rep	

Baby Puppy - Bitch	
Sunshine As Kiwi Gold (Shugg)	23
Kelljass Snow Pearls (S Kelly)	4
Puppy - Bitch	
Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	75
Zaminka Belle O Th Ball (Carleton / Bello)	35
Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (Yau)	30
Zaminka Kiwi Kisses (McRae)	25
Junior - Bitch	
Ch Zaminka Diamonds Forever (Carleton / Bello)	80
Zaminka Belle O Th Ball (Carleton / Bello)	32
Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	8
Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (Yau)	7
Intermediate - Bitch	
Ch Sunshine BJ's Dream (Shugg)	26
Ch Zaminka Diamonds Forever (Carleton / Bello)	13
Lealsam Kiwi Fall (Reeve)	8
Ch Angara Sneaking Me Kisses (Barr)	4
NZ Bred - Bitch	
Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	56
Ch Angara Sneaking Me Kisses (Barr)	22
Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	15
Ch Wytekloud Ambers-Burn-For-Eva (McRae)	4
Open - Bitch	
Ch Angara Dancing With The Stars (Barr)	49
Ch Zaminka Power Ball (Carleton / Bello)	39
Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	28
Ch Sunshine BJ's Dream (Shugg)	19
Ch Lealsam Grand Aurora (Reeve)	6
Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (Yau) -	6
Best Bitch	
Ch Zaminka Diamonds Forever (Carleton / Bello)	48
Ch Sunshine BJ's Dream (Shugg)	33
Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	30
Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	22
Ch Zaminka Power Ball (Carleton / Bello)	18
Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (Yau)	18
Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	16
Zaminka Belle O Th Ball (Carleton / Bello)	16
Ch Angara Sneaking Me Kisses (Barr)	14
Ch Angara Dancing With The Stars (Barr)	9
Ch Wytekloud Ambers-Burn-For-Eva (McRae)	3
Ch Lealsam Grand Aurora (Reeve)	2
Sunshine As Kiwi Gold (Shugg)	2
Best Bitch Rep	
Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	20
Ch Zaminka Diamonds Forever (Carleton / Bello)	19
Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	11
Ch Zaminka Power Ball (Carleton / Bello)	4
Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (Yau)	2
Zaminka Belle O Th Ball (Carleton / Bello)	2
Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	2

Congratulations to the new champions!

Ch Kursharn Golden Tabitha (J Jules)

Ch Oscarbi Just Astronomical (H Clark and R Barzey)

Ch Kursharn Nvee'n Tymba (M & J Wells)

Ch Snocozy Voyage To Beyond (Imp Aust) (W Yau)

Ch Silvertips Secret Sensation (K Magnus)

Can, Am, Eng & NZ Ch Vanderbilt's One Cool Cat (Imp Can) (G & L Carleton)

"No man can be condemned for owning a dog. As long as he has a dog, he has a friend; and the poorer he gets, the better friend he has." ~ *Will Rogers*

From the Secretary - Snow Dog Match

We have a good range of prizes again this year so that everyone will go home with a prize. This is a great fun day out, to relax, chat to fellow dog lovers and cheer when the Samoyed wins the class (LOL)! More information about this show is in this magazine.

A new puppy - “Introducing Anjing”

One Friday afternoon in June, I picked the children up from school and told them we had to pass by the airport to pick up a parcel. The children waited patiently outside the cargo area, watching the suitcases and boxes come past, when I pointed out a cage. “Is that for us?”, was their surprised reply. The cutest, little, fluffy, white puppy looked out of the cage at them. The children were over the moon (and we were the “best parents in the whole wide world” for the next couple of days). The moment we opened her cage, Anjing ran out towards the children, tail wagging, licking them all over.

Our decision to get a Samoyed has been a great one. Having had one as a child, I knew their friendly nature would suit us well and we have not been disappointed. Anjing is a very confident and friendly dog. She loves playing with the other dogs in our neighbourhood (her best friend, Sammy, is a Labrador – Blue Heeler cross), going for walks on the beach and digging the garden (if mummy isn’t watching).

I’ve attached a photo of Anjing after one of her digging escapades, wondering why she won’t be let in!

Thank you to Anita Shugg of Sunshine Samoyed Kennels for raising such a fantastic puppy.

-Susan van der Plank & Dave Hall

The Samoyed Coffee mugs have all been sold, thank you for all your support.

We will look at what other items we can have the Samoyed head printed on for next year’s Champ show.

Pet Expo

It has been 10 years since they held a Pet Expo in Wellington. They now charge all clubs to hold a stall at the Pet Expo. The Pet Expo has lots of rules on what you must have on your stall, including lights, and all electrical items must be certified. You can hire everything and it costs more $$$.

The Committee does not agree with Breed Clubs having to pay to educate the public about purebred dogs but we do think it is very important to be educating the public about Samoyeds. We asked the Spitz Breed Club to go in with us, to share the work load and cost. We have got a few other Spitz breeds to join us too. There has been a lot to organise but think it will be beneficial to all breeds there. Date is 5 and 6 November at Trentham Racecourse.

Neilmar Charlotte Fraser

Neilmar died at her home in Sumner, Christchurch, in February just a few days before the horrendous 22 February earthquake. She had been a Life Member of The Dominion Samoyed Club (Inc) (DSC) along with sister-in-law Elma Todd.

A doyenne of the breed she had edited the DSC magazine in the 1960s, and had been a club friend and supporter through the decades even after the death of the last Voinaika Samoyed, multi BIS winning NZ Ch Kalina Imperial Rebel (Imp Aust).

I recall one year the Fraser family had a clash of events and were not able to attend the DSC championship show which in those days was held during Queens Birthday weekend. But that did not stop them from entering three Samoyeds (one dog and two bitches) and their friends Doug Brown and Dorrie West brought the two bitches along to the show and exhibited them on their behalf. That demonstrated their genuine commitment to the club and to the breed.

Neilmar and her late husband Norm imported many beautiful Samoyeds from Kalina with whom they had many successes and bred many beautiful dogs under the Voinaika prefix. You might have to go back some generations but I am confident that the majority of Samoyeds being shown in New Zealand will have one or more Voinaika owned or bred Samoyed in their pedigree - dogs such as NZ Ch Kalina Wanderer (Imp Aust) - 4 BIS before the grand champ title was introduced, NZ Ch Kalina Smirnoff RBIS National Show, Aust & NZ Ch Tatina of Kobe (Imp UK), NZ Ch Kalina Zeigred (Imp Aust), Ch Voinaika Romanoff, Aust & NZ Ch Kalina Imperial Ureka (Imp Aust), Aust & NZ Ch Kalina Major Module (imp Aust), and NZ Ch Kalina Silver Knight (Imp Aust). Between them they won a string of BISs plus many BOB and group wins at the National Show in the days when the entries usually exceeded 50.

It is interesting to note that of the 8 New Zealand Grand Champions five of them:

Gr Ch Nikolaevsk An Bye Lay, Gr Ch Samways Summer Knight, Gr Ch Silvertips A Touch Of Magic, Gr Ch Skrownek Sev Kazan, and Gr Ch Zaminka Flashlight can trace their pedigrees back to at least one or more Voinaika owned or bred Sam. That is a reflection of the lasting contribution of the Voinaika kennel.

I founded my Kiev kennel with an eight week old bitch puppy from Voinaika. Gdanis was one of three champions in the first litter from NZ Ch Kalina Smirnoff (Imp Aust) and Ch Voinaika Tamara. It was the best decision I ever made! Tamara was only the second Samoyed bitch to win a Best in Show at an all breeds championship show. I was very fortunate to count Neilmar as my breed mentor and many Samoyed owners sought her advice which she was always willing to give.

For many years Neilmar was a president of the Canterbury Ladies Kennel Association and later held the positions of Association Patroness and Life Member. She was also chair of the NZKC Judges Association as an All Breeds judge.

Neilmar judged The Samoyed Club championship show in Taupo in 1999. One of the few occasions when the show was held outside Wellington. She drew an entry of 45 less eight scratched and awarded BIS to Sharon Stacey's homebred Ch Samways Spiced With Fire. She also judged the NSW Samoyed Club specialty in 1973 and again in 1994 as well as judging at In Show level in Australia and Asia.

Though Samoyeds were her first love she did show and breed from a Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Inverloch Coconut (bred by the late Mollie Barker).

I recall her often admiring the Shih Tzus of the late Jan Dew of Dunedin so I was not surprised that was the breed she chose in her later years. She imported several from Australia and achieved a grand championship title with NZ Ch Demilo Ima Natural (Imp Aust).

Some people had difficulty pronouncing her name but I never heard her comment about that. Her name was a combination of her parent's names of Neil and Marjorie, ie Neilmar, but I often heard people call or refer to her as "Nelma".

Both her sons, Roger (who predeceased her) and Simon, also owned dogs as adults. Roger chose the Saluki but Simon took on the German Shepherd which he and his wife exhibited and bred for some years. Roger was the Hon Solicitor for The DSC for many years.

- Lauren de C James

NZ Ch Kalina Smirnoff (Imp Aust) w*inning Reserve Best in Show at the National show in 1967, handled by Neilmar*

Samoyeds in Snow!

August saw many places in New Zealand, not usually accustomed to snow getting just that! We've had some photos sent in of Sammies enjoying (mostly!) that recent snow (as well as others) these snow dogs don't often get to experience in New Zealand, as well as some photos of Sammies living in places where snow is a more regular occurrence.

Above: Two Samoyeds from Carterton—owners Danna and Richard—enjoying snow and skis!

Above: Betty Moody's Suzie and Gypsy in a snow-filled backyard.

Bottom left: Lui's first snow (a little apprehensive) .

Bottom right and above: Later on, Lui enjoying it.

The above photos are from Estonia. Dogs are Estonian Ch.Samite Dreams Come True O'Chase (6 photos on left) and Estonian Ch.Samite Date With Destiny O'Chase (2 photos on right).

These photos below were sent by Ankie Wigren, a Samoyed breeder from Sweden. The top left is from 1985 and is her, a friend and her first Samoyeds, the rest being some Samoyeds she has bred since.

The Central Territories Siberian Husky Club, The Alaskan Malamute Club and The Samoyed Club
Present Our Annual

Snow Dogs Match Day



Join us for some FUN and socialising both human and K9
Help the Samoyeds take on the other snow dogs

All dogs welcome
including neutered and spayed dogs

Sunday 27th November 2011, Reporting Time 11am

Judging Starts - Midday

(WET OR FINE)

Venue: Manawatu Canine Centre, Cambridge Ave, ASHHURST

Judge: Lisa Sutcliffe

Entry Fee: $3 per dog for the first class entered plus $1 per class per dog thereafter

- Baby Puppy
- Puppy
- Junior
- Intermediate
- NZ Bred
- Open
- Best New Handler
- Best Sled Dog
- Best Head
- Best Tail
- Best Coat
- Best Mover Under 12 Months
- Best Mover Over 12 Months
- Best Spayed/Neutered
- Best Champion
- Best Veteran

***CHAMPION SHOW DOGS PLEASE NOTE**: can only be entered in the stake classes*

Contact Person: Lynne Barr Phone: (04) 477 1097

Sponsorship – Nutrience Dog Food

Betty Shirley Neumayr

Betty came into Samoyeds with the acquisition of the bitch My Lady of Tarantella (Kubok of Lev Kassill ex Kyra of Rock Ember). “Tasha” was whelped in January 1974 and bred by Mr and Mrs R Niven. Betty showed Tasha and then in 1976 Tasha was mated to NZ Ch Kalina Silver Knight (Imp Aust). The resultant litter of six dogs and two bitches whelped in June gave her plenty of choice and she chose to keep a bitch named Yurak Alicilex.

The Yurak kennel name had been registered previously in 1935 by Mr R R Dunn but as it had been inactive for over 30 years Betty and her husband Lutz were granted the name.

A male puppy was sold to Marilyn and Peter Wehrli of Wellington and was their introduction to the show world. Named Yurak Strakov he became the first champion for his breeder. Strakov was never used at stud but his litter brother Yurak Turgenev sired a litter for the Korolenko kennel of Mr D Saysell.

The sire chosen for Tasha’s second litter was NZ & Aust Ch Kalina Imperial Ureka (Imp Aust) and she whelped nine puppies in May 1977. Yurak Elise was bought by Mrs W M Dunlop who later bred one litter from her, registering one dog puppy under the kennel suffix of Dunby.

One of the dog puppies, Yurak Barazov, went to Lutz’s brother and his family. Though he did not sire any puppies Henny and her family were enthusiastic enough to purchase a bitch from Nikolaevsk kennels from which they bred a singleton litter.

The Wehrli’s were smitten enough to buy a bitch puppy from the Uki litter. Named Yurak Nadia they soon titled her with some lovely wins along the way. Nadia was one of those Sams with star quality and always drew the eye to her whenever she was in the ring. She produced two litters of puppies which were registered under the Samvilla prefix. One of the puppies from her first litter was the foundation of Ken and Anita Shugg’s’ Sunshine kennel.

Another male from the Uki litter was Yurak Arkady who went to Richard and Pauline Hakkens of Paraparaumu. “Zion” was shown as a youngster and after he died in his 13th year Pauline published a small booklet in his memory (1992 ISBN 0-473-01514-5).

The third and last litter bred by Betty and Lutz was sired by Aust & NZ Ch Kalina Major Module (Imp Aust) out of their homebred Yurak Alicilex. The five puppies were whelped in August 1978. Betty did the show handling but though she did not show widely picked up several placings at National shows.

Betty was a committee member of The Samoyed Club from 1977 through till the early 1980s and held the joint role of treasurer and secretary for several years. Lutz too had some involvement being a member of the show disputes committee.

The Yurak kennel name of Betty and Lutz (who predeceased her) lives on through the descendants of Ch Yurak Nadia. Betty is survived by her son Brent and three grandchildren.

- Lauren de C James

Betty came to look at a litter of Angara puppies in 1996 with her son Brent and family. The idea was for the puppy to be the family pet of Brent's family and a show dog for Betty. Betty wanted a bitch so Abbey went to live with the Neumayr family much to the delight of Betty. Abbey was a very head strong wee girl and I am sure made life interesting and eventful. Betty just loved Abbey but found showing was not the same as most of the folk she she knew from when she had shown before had left the sport. I still had contact with Betty through Floral Art and got to hear of Abbey's antics. I remember Betty saying at a particularly sad time "A white dog helps".

- Lynne Barr

Betty is pictured with **Angara Abbey Gale** at the 1997 Samoyed Club Championship Show

Food Dangers for Dogs

With so many "human" foods out there that could potentially hurt or even kill a dog it's always good to be aware of more of the foods that could be dangerous for our beloved pets. Here's a list, albeit not everything, of some of the more common foods that can have nasty consequences if eaten by them.

http://www.missouriscenicrivers.com/baddogfoods.html

Alcohol

Ingestion can lead to injury, disorientation, sickness, urination problems or even coma or death from alcohol poisoning.

Fruits (some, in particular apples, apricots, cherries, peaches, pears and plums)

The seeds/seed pits contain cyanogenic glycosides which can result in cyanide poisoning in dogs.

Avocado

Avocado contains a toxic element called persin which can damage heart, lung and other tissue in many animals. Avocadoes are high in fat content and can trigger an upset stomach, vomiting or even pancreatitis. The seed pit is also toxic and if swallowed can become lodged in the intestinal tract where it may cause a severe blockage which will have to be removed surgically.

Baby Food

Before feeding any baby food to your dog check the ingredients to see if it contains onion powder, which can be toxic to dogs. Feeding baby food in large amounts may result in nutritional deficiencies.

Bones

Cooked bones can be very hazardous for your dog. Bones become brittle when cooked which causes them to splinter when broken. The splinters have sharp edges that have been known to become stuck in dogs' teeth, causing choking when caught in the dogs throat or a rupture or puncture of the stomach lining or intestinal tract. Especially bad bones are turkey and chicken legs, ham, pork chop and veal.

Symptoms of choking are:

- Pale or blue gums
- Gasping, open-mouthed breathing
- Pawing at face
- Slow, shallow breathing
- Unconscious, with dilated pupils

Raw bones (uncooked in any way) like chicken necks or beef knuckle bones are generally considered safe and help keep your dog's teeth healthy by removing plaque. A caution - bones have a high calcium content and too many can cause severe constipation.

Bread Dough

When bread dough is ingested your dog's body heat causes the dough to rise in the stomach. During the rising process alcohol is produced as the dough expands. Pets who have eaten bread dough may experience abdominal pain, bloat, vomiting, disorientation and depression. A pet needs to eat only a small amount to cause a problem, because bread dough can rise to many times its size.

Broccoli

The toxic ingredient in broccoli is isothiocynate. While it may cause stomach upset it probably won't be very harmful unless the amount fed exceeds 10% of the dogs total daily diet.

Caffeine

Beverages with caffeine (like soda, tea, coffee) act as a stimulant and can accelerate your pet's heartbeat to a dangerous level. Pets ingesting caffeine have been known to have seizures, some fatal.

Cat Food

Cat food is not formulated for canine consumption. It is generally too high in protein and fats and is not a balanced diet for a dog.

Chocolate

Chocolate contains theobromine, a compound that is a cardiac stimulant and a diuretic. When affected by an overdose of chocolate, a dog can become excited and hyperactive. Due to the diuretic effect, it may pass large volumes of urine and it will be unusually thirsty. Vomiting and diarrhoea are also common. The effect of theobromine on the heart is the most dangerous effect. Theobromine will either increase the dog's heart rate or may cause the heart to beat irregularly. Death is quite possible, especially with exercise. Symptoms of chocolate poisoning include: vomiting, diarrhoea, tremors, hyperactivity, irregular heartbeat and seizures.

Larger quantities of chocolate can poison or even kill a medium or large dog. An ounce or two of chocolate may not seem like much but it can be lethal to a small dog that weighs 10 lbs. or less. After their dog has eaten a large quantity of chocolate, many pet owners assume their pet is unaffected. However, the signs of sickness may not be seen for several hours, with death following within twenty-four hours.

Cocoa powder and cooking chocolate are the most toxic forms. These forms of chocolate contain ten times more theobromine than milk chocolate. Even licking a substantial part of the chocolate icing from a cake can make a dog sick. The next most dangerous forms are semi-sweet chocolate and dark chocolate, with milk chocolate being the least dangerous. A dog needs to eat more than a 250gm block of milk chocolate; however the high amount of fat found in milk chocolate can lead to an attack of pancreatitis.

- 1 ounce per pound of body weight (2 ounces per kg of body weight) for milk chocolate.
- 1 ounce per 3 pounds of body weight (1 ounce per 1.5 kg body weight) for semi-sweet chocolate
- 1 ounce per 9 pounds of body weight (1 ounce per 4 kg) for baker's chocolate.

During many holidays such as Christmas, New Year's Day, Easter and Halloween, chocolate is often accessible to curious dogs, and in some cases, people unwittingly poison their dogs by offering them chocolate as a treat or letting them lick a frosting bowl.

Corn Cobs

Many dogs have suffered and, in some cases, died after eating corn-on-the-cob, because the corn cob caused a partial or complete intestinal obstruction. Never allow your dog access to corn cobs.

Dairy Products

Most dairy products are digested poorly by dogs who have little or none of the enzyme required to digest the lactose in milk. Just like lactose-intolerant people, lactose-intolerant dogs can develop ex-

cessive intestinal gas (flatulence) and may have foul-smelling diarrhoea. It is best to avoid most dairy products altogether, although small amounts of cheese or plain yogurt are tolerated by most dogs, since these products have less lactose than most.

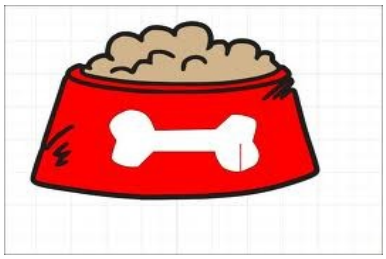
Grapes or Raisins

Although the minimum lethal dosage is not known, grapes and raisins can be toxic to dogs when ingested in large quantities. The symptoms are gastrointestinal signs including vomiting and diarrhoea, and then signs of kidney failure with an onset of severe kidney signs starting about 24 hours after ingestion. The amount of grapes eaten varied between 9 oz. and 2 lbs., which worked out to be between 0.41 and 1.1 oz/kg of body weight. It has been reported that two dogs died directly from the toxicity, three were euthanized due to poor response to treatment and five dogs lived.

Due to the severity of the signs and the potential for death, the veterinarians at the National Animal Poison Control Centre (NAPCC) advocate aggressive treatment for any dog believed to have ingested excessive amounts of grapes or raisins, including inducing vomiting, stomach pumping and administration of activated charcoal, followed by intravenous fluid therapy for at least 48 hours or as indicated based on the results of blood tests for kidney damage.

Mouldy or Spoiled Foods

The common mould found growing on many foods contain toxins such as Penicillium mould toxins or tremorgenic mycotoxins. Symptoms of poisoning include severe tremors and seizures that can last for hours or even days. This is considered an emergency and medical treatment is needed to control the seizures and detoxify the dog.



Spoiled foods can cause food poisoning. Symptoms of food poisoning are severe vomiting, diarrhoea and shock.

Prevention is the best course, don't feed your dog mouldy food left in the refrigerator and don't allow him to raid your garbage cans or compost bin (or your neighbour's).

Mushrooms

Mushroom poisoning can be fatal if certain species of mushrooms are eaten. The most commonly reported severely toxic species of mushroom in the US is Amanita phalloides, but other Amanita species are also toxic. They can cause severe liver disease and neurologic disorders. The recommendation is to induce vomiting when these mushrooms are ingested and to give activated charcoal, as well. Supportive treatment for liver disease may also be necessary.

Nutmeg

Nutmeg is reported to be a hallucinogenic when ingested in large doses. Nutmeg has been known to cause tremors, seizures and in some cases, death.

Nuts

Nuts in general are not good for dogs as their high phosphorus content may lead to bladder stones.

Onions

Onions cause haemolytic anaemia, which means that the red blood cells break down leaving the dog short of oxygen. Onion poisoning can occur with a single ingestion of large quantities or with repeated meals containing small amounts of onion. The condition generally improves once the dog is prevented from eating any further onion. The poisoning may occur a few days after the dog has eaten the onion. At first dogs affected by onion poisoning show gastroenteritis with vomiting and diarrhoea, weakness and show little or no interest in food. The red pigment from the burst blood cells appears in an affected dog's urine making it dark coloured. The dog will experience shortness of breath because the red blood cells that carry oxygen through the body are reduced in number. Other symptoms are elevated body temperature, confusion, and increased heart rate. Seek veterinary care immediately.

The quantity of onions, raw or cooked, required is high enough that dogs can generally tolerate small doses of onions without any problem and moderate amounts of onion without apparent signs of onion poisoning. All forms of onion can be a problem including dehydrated onions, raw onions, cooked onions and table scraps containing cooked onions and/or garlic. Left over pizza, Chinese dishes and commercial baby food containing onion, sometimes fed as a supplement to young pets, can cause illness.

While garlic also contains the toxic ingredient thiosulphate, it seems that garlic is less toxic and large amounts would need to be eaten to cause illness.

Potatoes

Solanum alkaloids can be found in green sprouts and green potato skins, which occur when the tubers are exposed to sunlight during growth or after harvest. The relatively rare occurrence of actual poisoning is due to several factors: solanine is poorly absorbed; it is mostly hydrolyzed into less toxic solanidinel; and the metabolites are quickly eliminated. Cooked, mashed potatoes are fine for dogs, actually quite nutritious and digestible.

Rhubarb

Leaves contain oxalic acid and anthraquinone glycosides, both poisonous.

Salt

Iodized salt and salty foods can cause stomach ailments and pancreatitis. Some dogs, especially large breeds, have been known to gulp too much water after eating salty foods and developed a life threatening condition called bloat during which the stomach fills with gas and twists, leading to a painful death unless emergency treatment is received immediately.

Tobacco Products

Cigarettes and cigarette butts, cigars, pipe tobacco, nicotine patches, nicotine gum and chewing tobacco can be fatal to dogs if ingested. Signs of nicotine poisoning can appear within an hour and include hyperactivity, salivation, panting, vomiting and diarrhoea. Advanced signs include muscle weakness, twitching, collapse, coma, increased heart rate and cardiac arrest. If anyone who lives in or visits your home smokes, tell them to keep tobacco products out of reach of pets and to dispose of butts immediately. If you suspect your dog has ingested any of these seek veterinary treatment immediately.

Tomatoes and Tomato Plants

These contain atropine which can cause dilated pupils, tremors and irregular heartbeat. The highest concentration of atropine is found in the leaves and stems of tomato plants, next is the unripe (green) tomato and then the ripe tomato.

Sammy Walk

On a cold but rain-less day in July we had a Sammy Walk along the Hutt River. Definitely an interesting sight for some to see a larger number of our white fluffy dogs (and one short-haired black and tan one…) that one wouldn't usually see too often, and certainly the dogs all seemed to enjoy themselves, as did the walkers too. Here's some of the photos from the day.


VEHICLES
DRIVERS
PARKING

The relationship of feeding patterns and obesity in dogs

By R. Heuberger and J. Wakshlag

Summary

The rates of dog obesity are increasing and a greater understanding of feeding patterns is required to combat the problem. This study examined relationships between dietary patterns and caloric intake, and nutrient content of foods fed as it relates to obesity in dogs in the United States. Sixty-one owners and their dogs were enrolled, and lifestyle surveys, food frequencies, and 3-day food records were collected. Significant differences in overall kcal intake per kilogram of body weight were found ($p < 0.04$). Crude fibre in dog food was positively associated with protein and negatively associated with fat regardless of the dog's weight ($p < 0.001$). Lean dogs received significantly more crude fibre in relation to overweight dogs regardless of the number of treats they received ($p < 0.01$), and their diets had greater micronutrient densities ($p < 0.03$) suggesting that high fibre influences body condition. Additionally, owners who ate nutrient-rich, calorie-poor diets had normal weight dogs, and owners that fed more table scraps had overweight dogs. Regardless of body condition, 59% of dogs received table scraps, which constituted 21% of daily caloric intake. The nutrient density of scraps fed was variable and did not meet National Research Council's recommendations for micronutrient adequacy.

Introduction

Companion dogs are an integral part of people's lives. As more owners consider their dogs part of the family, their health status is becoming increasingly important, and their health problems, such as obesity (*Slater et al., 1995*), seem to mimic those of humans. Although strategies to maximize dog health such as 'lite' and therapeutic diets have been available for years, the rates of obesity are increasing in companion animals. Examining relationships between dietary patterns and health in dogs living in community households and the implications on the dog's health can provide pertinent data for strategies to prevent obesity. However, the feasibility and accuracy of performing analysis of diet and disease by using surrogate informants can be difficult, and there are limitations to epidemiological analyses using these methods. These limitations include recall, reporting, awareness and recording biases, as well as proxy respondent biases.

Previous research revealed that although owners were concerned about their pet's health status, they did not provide a therapeutic diet and/or supplements associated with improved health status. In a telephone survey collected on the feeding habits of 635 dogs and 469 cats in the United States and Australia, 16% of respondents reported their pet had one or more diseases, yet only 2.5% were feeding their pet a therapeutic diet, and only 9.9% gave their pet a supplement. Although 356 (32%) of owners reported that their pet was overweight, only 3% reported this as a health concern (*Freeman et al., 2006*). This trend in using therapeutic diet and supplement use may be increasing among dog owners, as a recent questionnaire was administered to 400 private practice clients where 98.8% reported giving their dog a therapeutic or specialized life-stage maintenance diet and 27.2% provided supplements (*Thompson et al., 2008*). Although supplement use is also increasing, a recent report examining dietary trends in canine cardiac patients found that approximately 20% of food being fed was from table scraps (*Freeman et al., 2003*). Therefore, the increasing trend toward supplementation, treat and table food feeding may lead to imbalanced diets.

In humans, the health implications of obesity can lead to lipid disorders and insulin resistance. A small study conducted with 25 dogs attempted to measure health implications of over nutrition compared between three age groups: puppies, young adults and mature adults. The young adult and mature adult dogs developed insulin resistance and had elevated triglyceride concentrations. Although this may be the result of hypothyroidism or other morbidity in the sample, the authors attributed these changes to dietary influence (*Serisier et al., 2008*). Another trial including 127 dogs found higher cholesterol concentrations in obese dogs, and again, while this may be due to underlying disease state, the authors indicated dietary correlates were present (*Peña et al., 2008*). Furthermore, (*Stone et al. 2009)* also found higher concentrations of triglycerides and cholesterol in obese dogs suggesting metabolic derangements in obesity.

Therapeutic diets and over-the-counter 'lite' diets have been used for over 50 years to help manage obesity and overweight status in dogs. Most varieties provide 30–40% calories as protein, 17–25% calories as fat, and vary greatly in carbohydrate content. Ranges can vary from 6 to 59% in soluble carbohydrate and 2–23% for crude fibre (*Roudebush, 2008*). Placing a dog on a weight loss diet can result in increased begging or scavenging for food. A recent study examined manipulating a weight loss diet to provide a high fibre and protein diet vs. a diet that is high in only fibre or protein to help minimize these behaviours. Three diets (high fibre, high protein; high protein; high fibre) were voluntarily fed to six dogs. The high fibre and high protein diet was shown to be significantly more satiating than the other diets (*German et al., 2007; Weber et al., 2007*).

Recent research has shown that the increasing rates of obesity in dogs have led to increased rates of osteoarthritis, insulin resistance and certain neoplasias (*Laflamme, 2006*). Strategies to combat the problem are needed (*Swanson, 2006*). Additional research into prevention is required, and background information regarding current owner practices and patterns of feeding will aid in the development of sound experimental protocols and clinical recommendations that should provide better outcomes. The main objective of this study was to examine relationships between dietary patterns, sources of nutrition (dog food, treats and table food) and health in dogs living in community households. Implications for the dog's health were examined post-stratification into obese and non-obese categories based on owner perceived body condition. Secondly, the feasibility of performing descriptive analyses of diet and disease in community dwelling dogs using owners as surrogate informants were examined. Findings from this study have implications for successful obesity prevention and potential treatments for overweight and obese companion dogs.

Materials and methods

Subjects

Participation in the study was voluntary and informed consent was obtained from 61 participants who were recruited using word of mouth and advertisement from across the continental United

States. Questionnaires were distributed by U.S. Postal Mail and included questions regarding demographics, physical activity, diet recall, food frequency, table food quantity and frequency, and general health for both owners and their dogs. Fifty subjects were compensated with monetary incentives after their full research packet was returned. Eleven subjects voluntarily completed the study without compensation. To increase generalisability, subjects were excluded if they were under the age of 18 years, did not own the companion dog, or fed multiple companion animals simultaneously, as many American households own and feed only one dog. *Table 1* lists the characteristics of companion dog owners participating in this study.

Table 1

Dog owner characteristics: demographics and activity levels (*n* = 61)

Characteristic of owner	Frequency	Percentage
Gender of owner		
Male	8	13.1
Female	53	86.9
Race of owner		
Caucasian	59	96.7
Other	2	3.7
Level of physical activity of owner		
0–2 days/week	18	29.5
3–4 days/week	18	29.5
5–7 days/week	25	41
	Mean ± SD	Min/Max
Age of owner	37.8 ± 13.4	21/82
BMI owner [wt (kg)/ht (m^2)]	25.2 ± 5.5	19/50
Min/day spent exercising	37.6 ± 32.7	0/171

Study design

This study was a cross-sectional convenience sample of dietary and health patterns of owners and their dogs. Participants were instructed to answer the questionnaire regarding demographics, physical activity, food and treat frequency and general health for both themselves and their dog. Standard assessments were used for owners and adapted versions were used for reporting on dogs. A focus group was used to pilot and validate the pet measures. Overweight status of the dog as well as the owner, was assessed by self-report only. Subjects were asked if their dog was underweight, slightly underweight, ideal weight, slightly overweight, or obese, and further stratified as obese (slightly overweight and obese) or non-obese (ideal to underweight) by the investigators. Questions regarding time spent outside, activity level and if their veterinarian has ever told the owner their dog was overweight/obese were also included in the questionnaire.

Upon completion of the questionnaire, subjects were asked to accurately measure the amount of dog food, number of treats and amount of table foods given to their dog over a 3-day period to validate food frequency measures. Owners also completed the 3-day food record and the food frequency questionnaire to obtain data on their nutritional habits. It was important to collect both food records and food frequencies as food frequency questionnaires estimate the frequency of consumption of a variety of foods by asking the participant how often they eat a variety of food items. With food records, the subject records actual food consumed over a specified period. This methodology of cross comparison is considered the gold standard in human nutritional epidemiology for food intake and dietary pattern data acquisition (*Willett, 1998*.) Nutritional information was analysed using Nutritionist Pro software, v.4.3 (Axxya Systems, Stafford, TX, USA).

An attempt was made to obtain nutritional information from all the dog food companies whose food was fed by participants. This was carried out by contacting the companies; however, many companies felt this information was considered proprietary and no additional data were obtained. Nutritional information from the package was used for analysis when manufacturer's specifications were not obtainable. As dog food formulation changes are common, the nutrient composition of the dogs' diets in the study is based on the time the nutrient information was collected. Data were coded to ID number with no identifiers and were secured without identifiers. Rolling recruitment was used until a sample size of 50 participants was reached for the paid dog owners. An additional 11 participants were recruited and participated in the study without monetary compensation.

Data analysis

Data were entered, cleaned, coded and checked in Excel for Windows XP and then transferred to SPSS v. 17.0 (SPSS inc., Chicago, IL, USA) for analysis. Continuous and categorical data were analysed using standard descriptive statistics. Continuous and interval level data were regressed using both linear regression and logistic regression for binary outcome data. These data were also analysed using both Pearson and Kendall Tau correlations. Categorical data were analysed using cross tabs and chi-squared analyses. Continuous data were segmented using obese vs. lean and Mann–Whitney *U*-testing was utilized to elucidate differences among samples for both dogs and owners on multiple variables such as demographics, physical activity, general health, dietary data and lifestyle issues. Significance for all statistical testing was set at an alpha of 0.05.

Results

Nutrient analyses

Dog and human demographic information is shown in *Tables 1 and 2*, whereas feeding habits of the dogs are shown in *Table 3*. There were no statistically significant differences found between compensated and non-compensated participants on demographics, lifestyle or intake variables. The data for both compensated and non-compensated subjects were combined for the remainder of the analyses. Food frequency data were reasonably correlated with food records documenting measured intakes of macro and micronutrients [range $r = 0.71–0.89$]. Health data were obtained on both dogs and owners. None of the dogs had an un-medicated condition that would result in weight gain, or took medications that were known to cause increases in body weight. The amount of fibre in the dog's food was positively associated with the amount of crude protein and negatively associated with the amount of crude fat in the dog's diet, regardless of the dog's weight ($p < 0.001$).

Table 2

Characteristic of dog	Frequency	Percentage
Gender of dog		
Male	31	50.8
Female	30	59.2
Dog spayed or neutered		
Yes	52	85.2
No	9	14.8
	Mean ± SD	Min/Max
Age of dog (years)	5.7 ± 4.2	<1/16
Weight of dog (kg)	20.9 ± 13.6	1.8/49.1

Weight status of dog	Frequency	Percentage
Veterinarian said dog overweight?		
Yes	13	21.3
No	48	78.7
Body condition of dog		
Ideal weight	47	77.0
Overweight	13	21.3
Underweight	01	1.3
Activity level of dog		
Active	33	54.1
Not very active	17	27.9
Very slow/extremely sedentary	7	11.5
Hyperactive	4	6.6

Table 3
Dog characteristics: feeding habits (*n* = 61)

Feeding habits of dog	Frequency	Percentage
Consumes table food		
Yes	34	56
No	27	44
Percent table food consumed		
<25	20	33
>50	3	5
Treats given to dog		
Yes	56	92
No	5	8
	Mean ± SD	Min/Max
Grams of food consumed/day	251.9 ± 147.2	28.8/689.8
Treats consumed/week	12.20 ± 10.2	1/35
Treats consumed/day	1.51 ± 1.1	0.5/5.5

Average nutrient densities were calculated for table foods fed using Nutritionist Pro™ software. These are presented in *Table 4*. The nutrient density analyses show an imbalanced profile with most table foods fed to companion animals in relation to recent National Research Council recommendations (NRC, 2006).

Table 4

Table food feeding: nutrient density from owner's recording of 3-day food

Value	Units/1000 kcal scraps	Mean ± SD	*NRC 2006* Recommendations
Protein	G	43.7 ± 27	Variable
Carbohydrate	G	98.7 ± 62	Variable
Total fat	G	50.3 ± 21	13.8
Linoleic	G	4.6 ± 6	2.8
Sodium	Mg	1668.8 ± 1124	200
Potassium	Mg	1951.4 ± 2755	1000
Vitamin A	Mg	1381.7 ± 3785	379
Iron	Mg	8.9 ± 6	7.5
Vitamin D	Mg	0.5 ± 1	3.4
Vitamin E	Mg	1.0 ±2	7.5
Vitamin B1	Mg	0.9 ± 1	0.34
Vitamin B2	Mg	0.8 ± 1	1.32
Vitamin B3	Mg	12.4 ± 8	4.25
Vitamin B6	Mg	1.1 ± 1	0.375
Folate	Mg	269.0 ± 471	68
Vitamin B12	Mg	2.2 ± 3	8.75
Pantothenic acid	Mg	2.3 ± 3	3.75
Vitamin K	Mg	112.9 ± 332	45
Calcium	Mg	380.8 ± 430	1000
Phosphorus	Mg	561.9 ± 367	750
Magnesium	Mg	146.5 ± 183	150
Zinc	Mg	6.6 ± 6	15
Copper	Mg	1.4 ± 5	1.5
Manganese	Mg	1.3 ± 2	1.2
Selenium	Mg	43.2 ± 37	87.5
Iodine	Mg	NA	220
Choline	Mg	NA	425
Chromium	Mg	0.1 ± 0	NA
Molybdenum	Mg	3.7 ± 7	NA
Total dietary fibre	G	12.7 ± 20	NA
Insoluble fibre	G	0.4 ± 1	NA
Crude fibre	G	2.3 ± 6	NA

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To be continued next issue...

Following in famous footsteps

Many of us secretly long to uncover that unknown connection to a famous ancestor, but what's it really like to live with the stories of illustrious forebears? ***Jeremy Musson*** *asks four people how their lives have been touched by towering figures all born in the 19th century.*

Alexandra Shackleton, Granddaughter of explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton

"He was not a saint, but I do believe he was a very great man," says the Hon Alexandra Shackleton, who's become a champion of her grandfather, explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, rather by chance. "I'm certainly not the keeper of the flame, because the flame does not need to be kept. His reputation seems to grow all the time for one reason – his leadership."

Her first visit to the Antarctic was in HMS *Endurance* in 1991, which was "deeply inspiring". Coincidentally, interest seemed to grow worldwide with films, books and coins and she was asked to speak at events, as a family member and as president of the James Caird Society, named in honour of the boat.

Shackleton's sledge dogs watch as HMS *Endurance* sinks between the ice floes

"People ask me to do things, and if I think they'll be interesting, I do them. I've named three ships – any more would be vulgar. I'm a patron of the Shackleton Epic Expedition, which goes forth next year, with experienced polar leader Tim Jarvis. He plans to recreate the 800-mile voyage of the tiny 23ft *James Caird* across the stormiest seas in the world to South Georgia and climb its unmapped mountains, which Shackleton did in 1916 to bring rescue to the rest of the expedition marooned on Elephant Island."

Her father Edward (later Lord Shackleton) was Shackleton's younger son and was only 10 when his explorer father died, aged 47, in 1922. He hardly knew him because he was "away exploring for years at a time. I didn't grow up with lots of stories about my grandfather, although one of the cookers from his primus stove was used at home to feed the chickens. There was also one of the *Endurance* expedition photographs at home, showing the sledge dogs sitting on the ice after the ship was wrecked. I remember asking what happened to them and noticed that the grown-ups never gave a direct answer. I later learned that the dogs were all shot – because you couldn't take them in small open boats and they were essential food, too."

It was Shackleton's experience in sailing ships that enabled him to join Scott's *Discovery* 1904 expedition; he had entered the merchant navy at the age of 16. On his first expedition as leader, on *Nimrod*, in 1907-09, he and his companions got within 97 miles of the South Pole – they would have been the first, but tragedy might have followed. He took the epic decision to turn back. He later said to his wife: "I

thought you would rather have a live donkey rather than a dead lion."

Shackleton and Frank Hurley skin a penguin during an Arctic expedition

Miss Shackleton adds: "He was a natural leader, who took great trouble to know his men well, regardless of rank. He could do any job on an expedition, however menial, and often did. When asked for the qualities needed for a polar leader, he put optimism first, regarding it as true moral courage. I wish I had known him."

Reprinted from "Country Life", 14 July 2010.

Note:

Shackleton was a member of Captain Robert Scott's "Discovery" expedition to Antarctica which left England in 1901 but he was sent home early by his leader because he was suffering severely from scurvy. His next foray to Antarctica was as expedition leader on the "Nimrod" from 1907-1909 on which he took Manchurian ponies as well nine Samoyeds from Stewart Island. Upon his return to England he was knighted by King Edward VII. With the race to the South Pole having been won by Amundsen in 1911 Shackleton's next venture was the Imperial Transantarctic Expedition (crossing the Antarctic continent on foot) on the doomed "Endurance". The expedition left England in 1914 but became trapped in the ice in 1915. They were left with three lifeboats including the "James Caird" but no lives were lost. His final expedition was on the "Quest" which left England in September 1921. He died in South Georgia on January 5, 1922 at the age of 47 from a massive heart attack.

The other three individuals who featured in the story were:

The Earl of Carnavon, great grandson of Egyptologist the 5th Earl of Carnavon; Randal Keynes, great great grandson of the naturalist Charles Darwin; and Peter Bazalgette, great grandson of Sir Joseph Bazalgette (designer of the whole sewerage system for London who also created the Embankment and various bridges across the Thames in the 1860s).

Shackleton and sled dog sketch

Shackleton and some of the sled dogs (Endurance in background)

UN predicts demise

THE United Nations has joined the game of predicting the death of newspapers.

Mark the year 2017 in your diaries for the last American newspaper.

And the very last front page in the world will roll off the presses by 2040 – location unknown.

That's the view of UN intellectual property agency's chief Francis Gurry, who heads the World Intellectual Property Organisation.

"It's an evolution. There's no good or bad about it," he told *La Tribune de Geneve*.

"In a few years, there will no longer be printed newspapers as we know it today."

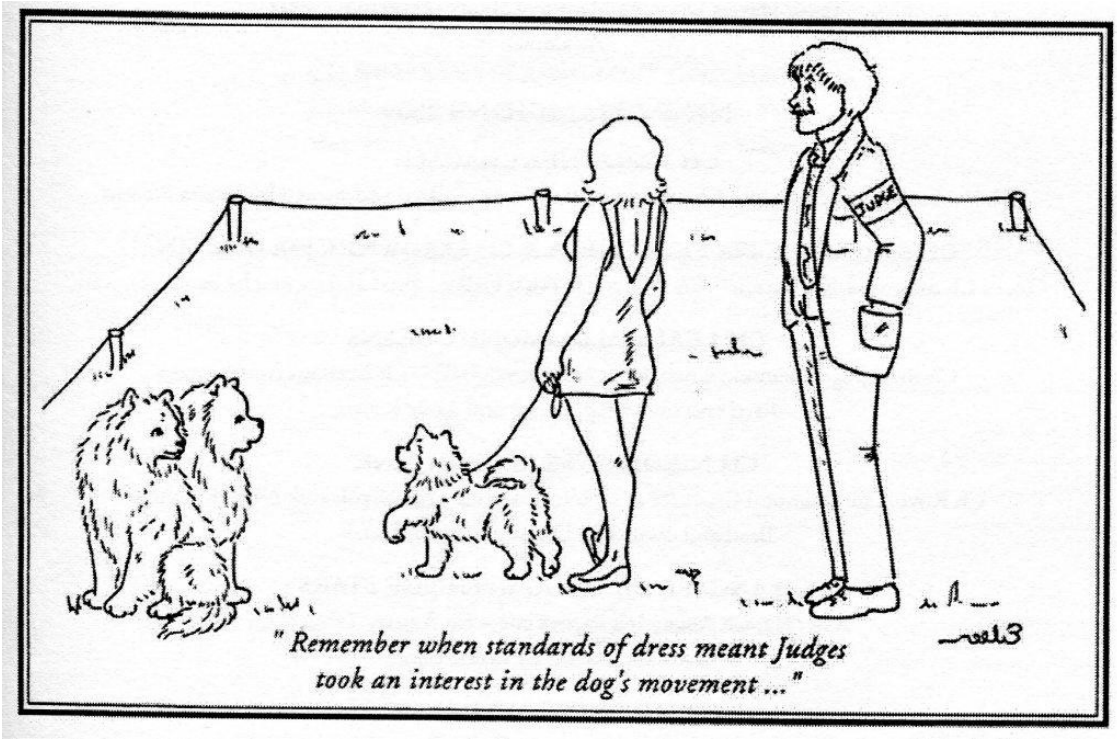
In the United States, digital editions rather than paper copies will be sold, he claimed.

From PANPA Ezine News Now, 7 October 2011

- Something to consider for the future of the Sleigh Courier, when will we be going digital and, out of curiousity, are people less likely to read it once it isn't a hard copy being physically mailed to them and just another email to perhaps ignore?

Licorice - From RJ's Licorice Factory
1kg bag of All Sort off cuts - $4
Black or Red Plain Logs – approx. 1kg - $8
Chocolate Black or Red logs – approx 1kg - $12
Don't miss out – order from Anita

Samoyed Badges!
Buy a special gift you cannot buy in a shop - $10 each



In memory of Eileen Reid who died in Palmerston North on 24 May. Eileen's Samoyed ownership and involvement in the world of dog shows was the impetus behind many delightful Samoyed cartoons and poems some of which were published in that delightful book "The little dog laughed".

Breeder's Directory

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Advertising in the Breeder's or Stud Directory costs only $5.00 per annum.

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