

President's Report 2017

2017 in spite of having a small committee was a very successful year. Our membership has been stable in number and we have welcomed quite a few new members. I hope they will join in the activities the Club offers and maybe join the Committee.

The entry for our Championship Show was down slightly this year although it was great to see some new exhibitors and again we welcomed some Interstate exhibitors. After the show there was a catered lunch which gave members the opportunity to meet the judge and following this we were fortunate to have our Judge Valeria Rickard (Joval Airedale Terriers USA) give a presentation on Breeding. Given that Valeria is a leading Reproductive Veterinarian and has her own practice in America this was a great opportunity for people to learn some of the basics of breeding. I'm sure even the long established breeders were able to gain something positive out of this session. The presentation was open to anyone who was interested and we asked for a donation from participants. The donations were passed on to the Canine Museum for the Dogs in War Memorial fund. The memorial is to be built at KCC Park and will honour all the dogs that have participated during wars. Unfortunately due to commitments at home the Rickards were not able to stay in Melbourne for long after the show but during the few days they were here the Committee had arranged several opportunities for members and others to meet them and enjoy their company. It was also lovely to have Roy and Marion Gregg of Bambusa Airedales in Northern Ireland visit and join in some of our events. The web of the Airedale Terrier spreads World Wide and any Airedalers visiting Australia and particularly Victoria are always invited to make contact with the Club.

In July we held the annual Bush Day and again I thank Ron and Anne Sorraghan for opening their property to us for this event. The day was well attended and the weather was perfect.

The Learn to Groom Day in October was well supported by members and others and most present were keen to learn how to groom their own dogs. This day is not intended to give dogs a free groom but rather teach the owners how to groom their dogs. It was good to see some breeders there on the day. Thank you for attending and helping out. An added feature of this day was the attendance of a Bowen Therapist. Many took the opportunity to have their Airedales, and in some cases the owners, treated for aches and pains.

Congratulations to all members who have shown their Airedales this year and particularly to those gaining a title. It would be great to see some new owners enter the world of dog showing. Talk to your breeder if you think you might be interested. Even if your dog is neutered you can compete for a Neuter Champion title.

The Airedaler is a publication that is welcomed by members far and wide; I hope that it will continue to be so. It is a fundamental part of the club's Statement of Purpose and a requirement of our adopted Model Rules (Constitution) that it be published four times each year. As Editor I have had many members tell me that the Airedaler is their link to the Club and the breed and they very much look forward to receiving it regularly as it keeps them in touch with what is happening in the breed.

I hope that the 2018 Committee positions will be filled by enthusiastic members – new and old alike - and that the Airedale Terrier Club of Victoria continues to be the “go to” body for valuable and reliable information about our wonderful breed. Next year (2019) the club will have been in existence for 90 years. That's something to celebrate isn't it?

It would be remiss of me not to thank the 2017 Committee Members for the work they have done during the year and particularly our Secretary Sue Wilson for her commitment, time and expertise in the position of Secretary. I would also like to thank the members who assisted the club in any way during the year.

Thank you all.

Sue Henderson
President 2017