Edition 11: September 2011

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Wh-e-mail

The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Victoria Inc.

Coming up soon: Welcome to the Spring edition of Wh-e-mail. Our next activities will be SCWTs exhibited at the Royal Melbourne Show on Sunday 25th Sept (last into the ring), and the famous October Picnic on Sunday 9th October at Fairview Park, Hawthorn. We'll have our AGM from 11.45 -12.00. The Wheaten Walk will begin at 12.15 sharp. The Picnic starts at 1.00pm. You'll receive your official invitation soon.

And now, as promised, lots of in-ter-est-ing photos from the Wheaten Herding clinic at Double K Herding at Nyora. We had 12 wheatens and 2 smooth collies working on the Sunday and 1 wheaten joining another group on the Saturday. Each dog had two sessions with 3 sheep each time. Photos by Michelle Bagnall and Sarah Lowe. (I cropped and resized them.) They're fairly low res to save your bandwidth.





Caihome





Ginger



Derry

Diva with Angela



Indi



So, how did they do? On the first run, the majority were like this:





Sheep? I see NUTH-ING.

A few were like this -

NO!

And we had 4 who just knew what to do and did it: Ginger, Marley, Redmond and Riley were brilliant all day, (and I understand Quigley showed the other breeds how to do it on the Saturday.) By the second run, things had improved dramatically. The handlers were more confident, but the dogs shone. The owners of the Double K had never seen wheatens herding. By the end of the day they were impressed.

So, if you have an opportunity to take your wheaten to an introductory herding clinic, run by experienced herding trainers, give your dog a go. Three runs per dog would be an ideal introduction. We all agreed we had been guilty of underestimating our dogs' abilities. Most loved it, and turned out to be good at it.

Here are our four initial "stars" at work.



I'll do it. Let me do it by myself!



I want a nice neat group of 3 sheep.



"Faster than a speeding bullet."



"Go ahead, make my day."

Useful contacts:

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