

Send us your email
address for the next issue

Special points of interest:

- The second issue of Fernamber Off Lead has arrived.
- Paddington awarded his Companion Dog title.
- There are lots of changes at the Fernamber website, now at www.fernamber.com
- You can now email us at cgibson@fernamber.com

Inside this issue:

Bathing Your Golden Retriever	2
Antioxidants in Pet Food	2
How to get a Top Quality Trial Dog	2
Defeating the Flea	3
Sleeping Dogs	3
Teacher's Pet	3
Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher	4

Fernamber Off Lead

Welcome to our Autumn Issue.

For those that thought Fernamber Off Lead would be a one issue production—the second issue has arrived!

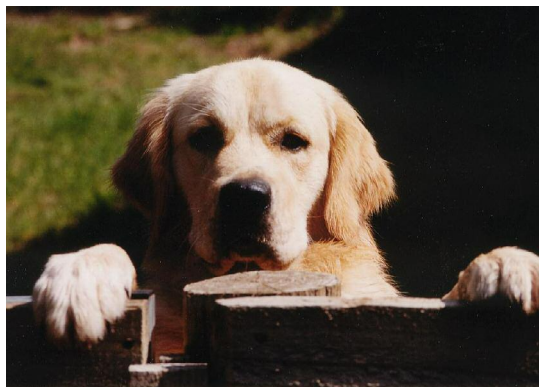
We are both very proud of our clever dog Paddington who has earned his Companion Dog title after gaining three qualifying scores at

obedience trials in March and April. His official name is now Fernamber Talisman CD.

Paddington then went on to gain three more qualifying scores at his next three trials. Two of his scores earned him first place in his ring.

His brother Tully, Fernamber Tradition, has also distinguished himself gaining a pass with some fine work at a Preliminary Tracking Trial, making him eligible to compete in a Tracking Trial.

Tully followed this with a Track One



Paddington our clever dog!
Fernamber Talisman CD

qualifying score at his first Tracking Trial.

This score counts towards his Tracking Dog title.

His owner Kim is very pleased!

Congratulations to you both and good luck at your next trial!

Paddington and Tully are little stars at only

thirteen months old! Stay tuned for future news on their achievements.

This section of Fernamber Off Lead is for everyone's news. Anything of interest is welcome. Tell us your news and we will report it here!

Is there a topic that you would like covered in a future issue of Fernamber Off Lead? Let us know and we will do our best to include it in a future issue.

Don't forget to send us your email address so you can have the next issue delivered hot off the virtual press!

Fernamber Website News

The Fernamber website has grown since our last newsletter. Check it out at www.fernamber.com

New additions to our site include;

- News and Announcements page
- Frequently Asked Questions section
- Early Training (Good Behaviour) page
- Stories from Rainbow Bridge

- A photo gallery of our Christmas shots
- A photo page for each Fernamber litter

Send us photos of your Golden Retriever and we will include them as well.

Hints and Tips: The easiest way to give your dog a tablet is in a piece of cream cheese. Even dogs who normally refuse to eat a tablet will happily swallow it this way.

Bathing Your Golden Retriever

Make sure that your puppy gets used to having a bath when he is young so that bath time is not a tussle.

Make bath time fun time for your puppy. Tell him stories and let him know how clever he is and before you and he know it, bath time will be over!

There are a quite a few advantages of bathing - your dog will be more pleasant to have around, it cleans the skin, removes dirt and debris from the coat and removes dead hair and skin.

A bath once a month is good. More frequently is not recommended because it reduces the protective oil in your dog's coat. This makes his coat dull and brittle and his skin dry and itchy and at risk of disease. The oil in the coat helps to repel

dirt, so bathing too often actually causes him to get dirtier faster.

Use only a shampoo designed for dogs or a pH neutral shampoo such as a baby shampoo. Human shampoos are not designed for a dog's sensitive skin. A conditioner (for dogs) will help relieve tangles and make brushing easier.

While in the bath keep water and shampoo out of his ears and eyes and rinse his coat thoroughly—shampoo left in the coat will irritate the skin.

Dry him thoroughly so he doesn't get cold. Be especially diligent around the tail. Golden Retrievers can get a condition known as 'wet tail' if the tail is left damp. The tail hangs limply, is painful to touch or move and requires a day or so to recover.



Bath time should be fun!

Refer to www.mudpuppy.co.nz

Antioxidants in Pet Food

Commercial pet foods require antioxidants to prevent their fat content going rancid. Synthetic antioxidants include BHA (butylated hydroxyanisole), BHT (butylated hydroxytoluene) and Ethoxyquin. BHA and BHT are used in both human and pet food. Ethoxyquin is used in animal feed and some human spices. Ethoxyquin is primarily found in premium dry foods containing high levels of fat.

Synthetic antioxidants allow foods to be preserved for longer periods than natural antioxidants but at the expense of adding chemicals to the food. There is concern over these antioxidants in pet food

including their toxicity, safety and the effects of long term use.

Many products now use only natural antioxidants. Natural antioxidants include Vitamin E, Vitamin C and rosemary.

Not having additives in pet foods has to be a desirable thing. There is no need for artificial colours or flavours and such junk in our dog's food. Look for a dog food that contains natural antioxidants and colours. Eagle Pack, Precise and Supercoat use only natural ingredients.

The expression 'You are what you eat' also applies to our canine companions.

"There is concern over synthetic antioxidants in pet food including their toxicity, safety and the effects of long term use"

How to get a Top Quality Trial Dog

Try This Tip....

This chain letter will bring you relief and happiness. Unlike most chain letters, it doesn't cost money.

Simply send a copy to six other dog owners who are dissatisfied with the way their dog is working.

Bundle up your dog and send him to the dog owner at the top of the list, and add your name to the bottom of the list.

In one week you will receive 16,436 dogs and one of them should be a real dandy.

Have faith in this letter. Do not break the chain. One owner broke the chain and got his own dog back.



Anything in the mail?

Defeating the Flea

In the last few years two new types of flea insecticides have become available. These act in different ways to combat fleas.

Flea contraceptives prevent fleas breeding but do not kill adult fleas.

Program (Lufenuron) and *Sentinel* (Lufenuron/ Mibemycin Oxime) break the reproductive cycle by preventing flea eggs from developing. *Sentinel* also kills heartworm larvae, adult roundworm, hookworm and whipworm. Both are tablets given every month.

Topical insecticides kill adult fleas.

Frontline (Fipronil) and *Advantage* (Imidacloprid) are examples of the newer insecticides which are not absorbed into the body. Both kill adult fleas and are stored in the natural oils of the coat.

Frontline also kills ticks while *Advantage* kills flea larvae. Both are water resistant. These products are applied to the dog's skin each month. However the insecticide can rub off onto carpet and furniture.

These two groups are far superior to older style insecticides which are absorbed into the dog's body. A lot of 'old time' products are still available but they are obsolete and sometimes dangerous. These include dips and washes containing organophosphates and environmental foggers containing highly toxic chemicals.

Flea control is far safer and easier than it was ten years ago. Take advantage of the new methods which are simple to use and highly effective. They will keep your Golden Retriever protected from fleas.



What is in your flea control product?

Sleeping Dogs

Do dogs dream? Dreams are subjective experiences and as yet no one has found a reliable way to get our dogs to tell us about them!

In people, dreams seem to occur in a phase of sleep called active or REM sleep, where the brain is highly active but the person is unresponsive to the environment. Active sleep alternates during the night with quiet sleep where brain activity is slower but people are still unresponsive. Almost all birds and mammals that have been studied show both active and quiet sleep based on recordings of their brain waves.

Dogs spend about 24% of their sleep time

in active sleep. Sometimes a dog will twitch and vocalize while in active sleep but we don't know whether these behaviours are correlated with dreams.

Dogs generally sleep up to thirteen hours per day. However, they wake up more frequently than we do. How much and when a dog sleeps also depends on the level of activity in their environment. A dog living alone may sleep much more than one working on a farm.

Unlike humans, dogs are very good at adjusting their sleep patterns so that they are active when there is activity around them.

"Dogs sleep up to thirteen hours per day, but wake up more often than we do."

Teacher's Pet

On the last day of kindergarten, all the children brought presents for their teacher.

The florist's son handed the teacher a gift. She shook it, held it up and said "I bet I know what it is. It's some flowers!"

"That's right!" shouted the little boy.

Then the candy store owner's daughter handed the teacher a gift. She held it up, shook it and said "I bet I know what it is. It's a box of candy!"

"That's right!" shouted the little girl.

The next gift was from the liquor store owner's son. The teacher held it up and saw that it was leaking. She touched a drop with her finger and tasted it.

"Is it wine?" she asked.

"No," the boy answered. The teacher touched another drop to her tongue.

"Is it champagne?" she asked.

"No," the boy answered.

"What is it?"

"A puppy!"



An apple for the teacher?

Fernamber Golden Retrievers

Cheryl and Clive Gibson
Corrimela
1 Namatjira Ave
Plenty Vic 3090

Phone: (03) 9435 7848
Email: cgibson@fernamber.com



*Golden Retrievers are
the Clever Companions*

**Visit us at
[www.
fernamber.
com](http://www.fernamber.com)**



Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher

An influential Golden Retriever



Dash and Dot say,

*"We need to be included in your
day's activities!"*

Until next issue,

Cheryl and Clive,

and our Golden Retrievers, April, Teagan, Paddington & Ashley

Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher

Even today Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher is regarded as a legend. A Golden Retriever bred in England in 1967, he was the cc (challenge certificate) record holder for the breed until 1990 when his grandson took the honour. He is still the top sire of the breed, siring 26 British title holders and many others abroad.

He was also a natural worker in the field. Three days a week during the season he would go picking up on shoots and became known for his stamina and persistence.

Christopher's story is an ugly duckling story. At first his owner, Joan Tudor wondered why she had chosen him. His front was bad, his hocks turned in, his coat was woolly, his legs short and his head not good. But as he matured, everything came together and he never looked back.

At four years of age he had his full Championship title. In England a dog must obtain a Certificate of Merit at a Field Trial or a Show Gundog Working Certificate in addition to his show title to be a full Champion. A gundog Champion must be able to perform the work he was bred for.

Over his show career Christopher gained an astounding 41 ccs. He had two Best in Shows, two Runner Up in Shows and eight

Best in Groups which is an impressive show record.

Joan Tudor attributes his success to good angulation front and back which made him a sound and stylish mover. Christopher also had personality and showmanship, often taking hold of his lead or Joan's anorak as he went around the ring.

In 1977 a routine inoculation went disastrously wrong and Christopher died in spite of a month's nursing.

Artificial insemination allowed puppies sired by Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher to be born in Australia in 1979.

Fred and Beryl Hession of Goldtreve Kennels imported semen from Christopher and two years after his death Ch Gaewynd Tapestry produced a litter of three dogs and three bitches to him. The three males, Ch Goldtreve Cameron, Ch Goldtreve Camrossie and Ch Goldtreve Camhal all gained their Australian Champion titles.

All Fernamber puppies have this famous Golden Retriever in their extended pedigree from the mating of Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher to Ch Gaewynd Tapestry through their son Ch Goldtreve Cameron who was an influential sire in Australia.