

October/November 1998



Freedom of Spirit

The International Border Collie Magazine

The Glorious Food

Is your dog getting its just deserts?

Tornado Andrew & Calamity Molly

What a combination

Oh No! Not my boy!

Glen has a girlfriend and Molly is not happy

For Collie lovers from all walks of life



Mainline

Border Collie Training Centre



Freedom of Spirit

The Twenty Fourth Issue

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Congratulations!!

*The winner of our
Oct/Nov 'Early Bird'
£10 cash prize was
Mrs H. Kerr.
Kent*

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Message from the Editor

It has been a busy time and we seem to be spending a lot of it taking in rescues. So no time for any drastic changes this issue!

We had such a response to Nan's article that we have delved a little deeper into the values of feeding in our centre pages. It is up to each individual to decide how to feed their own dog so we hope this helps you to understand a little more. Some of the more confusing factors on feeding are because the language is technical so we have tried to explain it in easier to understand terms.

Nicola Rowley has sent us a lovely and humorous account of life on the Med., and T.A.'s explanation of a red collie is brilliant.

As always Molly keeps us amused about her life with Susan and of course Glen, who is not in the good books at the moment.

I'm afraid it makes sad reading but maybe someone out there can help the homeless collies on page 13. Also looking for a home is Mac, not a rescue but in need of someone else to love him.

**Happy Reading
Barbara**

Tornado Andrew & Calamity Jane

It's a dog life in the Med - Part II

Nicola Rowley keeps us informed on life and Border Collies in the Mediteranean. But Tornado Andrew tells us what it is like from his point of view!

T.A.'s story forwarded to us by Nicola.

'.....I think that even if I did enter their lives like Tornado Andrew and even if I do make the cats life impossible, they must like us as Darling also wants a BC, so on the whole life with me can't be that bad.'

Do you remember me saying that last?? Isn't it amazing over a year has gone by and what a lot has happened! Darling got his BC; a red and white bundle of mischief called Detania Rhian, Rhea or Calamity Jane to HER friends. I must admit, even though I've calmed down a little bit, I don't envy Darling and Amore Mio, I mean keeping a Tornado and a Calamity in one house can't be peaceful on the nerves. Still I've noticed that they're tough though and pass with flying colours each test that we put them through.

I was given the honour of choosing her name as Darling was undecided between Rhea or Meghan. He wrote Rhea on one piece of paper and Meghan on the other. Then he screwed each piece up into a ball. He then put the two paper balls into one of the cups that I had won, and told me to chose a name. So I pulled out one of them and dropped it at his feet. I had chosen Rhea and so Rhea she became. Calamity Jane she earned, I had nothing to do with THAT name.

She was born under a lucky star

When we went to the airport to collect Rhea, I noticed that HER documents arrived with her and that HER plane arrived on time. Still, when your born under a lucky star... I was sitting in my usual place in the back of the car when Darling and Amore Mio put this cage with Rhea in it, next to me. When I finally decided that enough time had passed for my sense of superiority to be satisfied, I gave her a quick peep. To my great astonishment, she must have been so embarrassed that I had honoured her with my attention that she had turned red!! (Or at least that was my only feasible explanation for her colour). I must admit, I felt so sorry for her I decided to look at her as little as often, turning my head the other way. Even so, I just could not resist peeking at her every so often, just to see if she had overcome her shyness, but she was still red with embarrassment each time. I became most perplexed, this was a situation that was beyond my experience and although I pride myself on the way I handle new experiences and situations, I was quite at a loss what to do here. When we got home and they let her out of her travelling cage, I tried my best to make her feel less shy and more at home but I noticed that despite all my efforts she was still red! As she



Rhea (Calamity Jane)

seemed anything except shy, actually quite the contrary, I thought she must be ill. I tried to tell Amore Mio that we must call the vet immediately, I mean it must be serious. However, neither Darling nor Amore Mio paid any attention to my proposition and they certainly didn't seem to worry, so I thought, if they don't think anything is strange why should I?

Proper little 'red-head

As time passed I got used to her colour, though I enjoy teasing her about it now and then and she gets quite het-up, a proper little red-head, all passion. Don't tell anyone, but I think she's actually quite proud of her colour! Every time I tease her, she keeps saying that she is the only BC in Italy this colour and also that her father was Poseidon, a God, and that she was named after a Greek Goddess! Fancy that, a God for a father. It must have been a bureaucratic nightmare for the Kennel Club getting around that one when they made out her pedigree!

The family reputation at stake!

Darling and Amore Mio left me to teach her manners and to educate her and to tell you the truth, I'm proud of myself, I've done a really good job. Don't tell Darling or Amore Mio but when I found her digging those holes in the garden or chewing on the roses that Amore Mio had imported from England, I just couldn't tell her off. I mean, I know just how much fun it is, so I just looked away and pretended I didn't see her. After all we are cousins and we mustn't let the family reputation down.

We've become good friends and although I don't like admitting it, I've become quite attached to her funny ways. I know she adores me as she follows me around EVERYWHERE, she reminds me of Enid

Blyton's 'Shadow the Sheepdog'. Copies everything I do as well. For example, there is one particular game that I like playing with Darling. That is when he gets up from the table at meal times to get something from the kitchen, I dart in there and put my ball on his chair.. When he returns, he tips the chair up so that the ball rolls off and bounces on the floor for me to catch. Now Rhea's seen me playing this game many a time, so what did she go and do...she put the same toy that I play this game with on Darling's chair and stood back waiting for him to tip the chair up. The only problem was that we had all just put ourselves to bed and so of course there was no one there to see. We only realised when after a while seeing that no one came to tip the chair up, she let out an exasperated bark. When Amore Mio saw what she was doing, she gave her a big hug and tipped the chair up. Didn't I say earlier that she was born under a lucky star? I can't see them getting out of bed to tip the chair up for me!

Agility is coming on well now. Amore Mio has finally convinced me that the contact zones must be touched and therefore I lost my best bone. You should see that show-off Rhea doing the contact zones. Just because they taught her to do them properly at 4 months, she thinks she's the bees-knees. Real little show-off she is, you should see her as she runs head

long down the dog-walk at full speed stopping abruptly on the contact zone, posing. After all, there's no sheep there or even a camera to pose for! I've nick-named her Diva as she's a right little poser. She struts around with her nose up in the air, as if she has a bad smell under her nose and every time a camera is brought out you can be sure to find her there putting on her most dreamy expression. For example she never throws herself to the ground like me when she's worn out, she just elegantly lies down and watches, everything. She never misses a thing you know, I have to watch my favourite toys, otherwise as soon as I get distracted, she's in there fast and running off with them. Anyway, to get back to agility, I suppose I had to be convinced really about touching those contact zones. I mean its just not on, imagine being beaten in a competition by your little cousin and all for a couple of red painted areas. I just wouldn't be able to bear it. She would be impossible to keep in place. Never mind, what we have to put up with just to keep our image and status. Still, its nice to know though that Rhea listens to my every word and takes in all my advice but I think that she's taking the bit on 'keeping the family reputation high' stuff just a teensy-weensy bit too much to heart. It's worrying, she's good.

Enya

Armchair Visitors

If you have access to the Internet and have not already visited us

<http://www.bordercollies.co.uk> will bring you on to the farm and give you chance to meet Hope, Popcorn and the gang. Its all there in colour, plenty of photographs, articles and information, when you finish your visit you can Email fos@bordercollies.co.uk and we'll send you a brochure.

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