

debarkle

Never a day goes by without the local rag reporting a major hate match between neighbours over offences perpetrated by canine ratbags who bite the postman, bark all night or over-zealously guard their territory, which can include the whole street. Many a neighbourly relationship has been irrepairably damaged in this way. None the less, dogs make the news here in the Territory. You can be sure there will be a dog's muzzle looking back at you next time you open the paper. There was the wicked boxer-cross arrested at East Point for harrassing wallabies that made front page news. In the same issue, under Lost & Found was, "Lost: Boxer-cross, last seen at East Point.". Then there was the debate about Casuarina Free Beach; free for dogs or free for nudists? And there was the dog that was murdered along with it's owner on the Cox Peninsular. Dead dogs don't tell tales.

indogtrination

Who says Darwin is behind the times? Palmerston Council are looking to the future with the injection of microchips under the skin of dogs as a means of registration. This has the connotation of dog-robots (K-9) and we can only hope that the Dog ID Card will follow. Some may ask if there is a way of modifying dog-behaviour that could be used in conjunction with this technology.

a dingo got my baby

The dingo, once targeted for annihalation by The Dingo Destruction Board, has regained it's status somewhat despite the bad publicity of the Azaria Chamberlain incident, which had all of Australia speculating on how delicately a dog could undress a baby. It is true that the dingo's bite is worse than it's bark but Australia's national dog has been victimized and vilified to the extent that it now requires protection.

dog-tag

Until 1952, the Territory had a race of First Class citizens with Second Class status.... those who passed arbitrary tests in living standards, behaviour and education might apply for a LICENCE to be free of the provisions of the restrictive laws applying to Aboriginal people. This was known as the DOG TAG. Those who did not apply were legally cast as Aborigines; they could not vote and alcohol was forbidden to them. They lived in a half-way world, belonging to neither the Aboriginal tribes nor European society. 1.

a 5 dog night

Within the Aboriginal community, dogs sometimes outnumber people. The mobile blanket function is one of the dog's greater contributions to personkind. It is believed that there are some things, Mamu, that are invisible to people but that dogs can perceive, so they offer some protection and in return, are protected. "People are adamant that they would not eat their own dogs, no matter how hungry they were: camp dogs are milmilpa, sacred The distinction between 'wild' and 'domesticated' is also a distinction between 'edible' and 'inedible'." 1.

underdoa

"The disruption and annoyance they cause by brawling, thieving, barking all night, intefering in ceremonies and tripping up dancers hardly seem on rational grounds to justify their close contact with man " 2.



dog-fight

Pit Bull Terriers have become favorites of a certain bearded male stereotype in the Territory, and there are regular reports in the paper of organised dog fights, theft of dogs & delivery of dead animals back to their owners with notes referring to their lack of killer instinct. Perhaps it is the sentinel function that makes savage dogs attractive as pets. The pit bull, cute as it may be in a doggy way, is earning itself a bad reputation around the world, for biting off the arms of friendly little kids.

dog ticket

In a recent Darwin City Council election, a number of candidates ran on a dog ticket promising to introduce Draconian penalties for offenders against the City's bylaws governing Barking and Nuisance dogs.

dog show

ALP member for the Territory, Warren Snowdon inCURRed the wrath of his detractors when he used a VIP flight to get from a Townsville meeting back to the Territory to open the Tennant Creek and District Show. While he was there, Snowden presented the "Top Dog" award (\$3 cash prize, a blue ribbon and a pet shop voucher). That was reported in the press under the headline. "Snowden uses VIP flight to go to Dog Show".

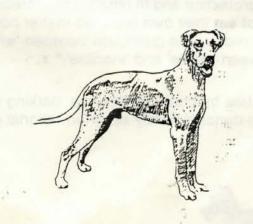
dead dog

CLP Candidate, Arthur Palmer, had the Territory's best interests in mind when he supported a program of dog innoculation in Aboriginal communities. After many dogs overdosed on the vermin vaccine, it became known as the Dog Eradication Program and lost favor with the Aboriginal people, who like their dogs alive. Subsequently the emphasis shifted to giving vitamen supplements to Camp Dogs (not an easy task).

dog act

The Legislative Assembly broke up into a cacophony of barks as legislation covering control of dogs was debated last night. Opposition members took exception to some aspects of the Dog Act and expressed their dissatisfaction with some realistic howling and barking. 4.

- 1. The Front Door: Darwin 1869-1969 Douglas Lockwood
- 2. & 3. Aboriginal Man's Best Friend by Annette Hamilton Mankind Magazine Vol 8 No 4 1972
- 4. Northern Territory News 21.8.91



Popular Darwin dogs ve vicious streak

Blue heeler/bull terrier-cross dogs, which make up the main dog named the bull terrier, german sheppopulation of Darwin, are among the most vicious breeds a new survey says. rottweiler, blue heeler and collie.

Darwin City Council animal liaison

Mrs Nye said most of the attacks in Darwin streets were by blue heeler/ bull terrier-cross dogs which made up the main dog population of the

By DEBBIE GRIMWADE

herd and doberman pinscher as the three most dangerous dogs.

They were followed by the

The survey found that these six breeds, which accounted for only 21.5 officer Joy Nye said 40 dog attacks or menaces had been reported to the council in the past two months.

breeds, which accounted for only 21.5 per cent of the total dog population, were involved in nearly three-quarters of all dog attacks.

The data also revealed that the attacks happened while the dogs were loose in the street.

whole DOGgone cycle would never have

rned the proposition over, was God a DOG

the day and gone down as a GREAT DANE oo high and see where it gets you.

Ivertail's LAPDOG - in the long run.



hou

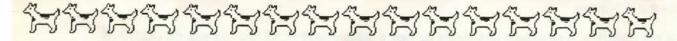
invites you to the opening of our first show for 1992 featuring works by members. Pet-hate or puppy love, It's time to curb your dogma.

Sunday March 8 at 5.00 pm

To be opened by Delvine Delazy. Guest appearance by Max the Fire Dog and a dogologue by Mac Mars-Dog Cocker of Mondo Cane: A Shaggy Dog Story at 7pm. Dogs allowed only if leashed & under strict control at all times.

Hours: Wed-Sun 10-6pm until March 29. Phone 815368

N T C C A: 90 Dick Ward Dr, Fannie Bay . We acknowledge the generous assistance of the VACB & the NT Office of the Arts.



acknowledgements

Colin Holt for permission to use Camp Dogs for catalogue cover design. Julie and Ben - Grafitti wall and flood damage control NT Arts Industry Training Council - Cattledog assistance Steven Hughes - Gallery preparation Mac Cocker Delvene Delazy, Fred Van Sant Suzanne Spunner School of Visual Arts, NTU

24HR Art gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Visual Arts/Craft Board, the Federal Governments Arts funding and advisory body, the NT Office of the Arts and Gaymark Pty Ltd