

## 2.13 – Introduction of American Lines into Australasia

### The First US Goldens into Australia American & Canadian Champion Beckwith's Early Eclipse SDHF

*Courtesy of Mrs L Fergusson and P Goodall*

The first American bloodlines to arrive in Australia (most likely NZ as well) was frozen semen from Am/Can Ch Beckwith's Early Eclipse SDHF, which arrived in 1995. Clipper was born on 25th June 1986 and died 14th November 1998. Clipper was a multi Specialty Best in Show winner and received a Judges Award of Merit at the Canadian National in 1989.

His pedigree goes back to two Yeo dogs imported by the Beckwith's, Am Ch Footprint Of Yeo CD OS (Imp UK) and Am Can Ch Beckwith's Frolic Of Yeo CDX OD (Imp UK). His pedigree also boasts one of the very few Dual Champions in US history, Am Dual Ch/AFC Ronaker's Novato Cain OS FDHF. The semen was originally imported by David and Margaret McKittrick (Coombehill) and is now owned by Paula Goodall and Shiela Rammell (Savaneta). To date there has only been one Clipper puppy born which was born under the Coombehill prefix.



*Am Can Ch Beckwith's Early Eclipse SDHF out of Am Can Ch Alderbrooke's Rush Hill Rebel TD OS SDHF by Am Can Ch Beckwith's Normandie Rose CDX, bred by L L Beckwith owned by J L Trask.*

### American Champion Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD

Frozen semen from 'Pillsbury' and his kennel mate 'Jackson' was collected and frozen in 1998 and was imported to Australia by Paula Goodall and Sheila Rammell (Savaneta). 'Pillsbury' was owned and bred by Paul and Karen Lindstrom in California. Pillsbury is the Grandson of Am Can Ch Rush Hill's Haagen-Dazs CDX JH WCX AX OAJ VCX OS SDHF and the record breaking Am Can Ch Asterling's Wild Blue Yonder OS SDHF whose record of fifty one All Breeds Best in Shows still stands today.

To date Pillsbury has sired two litters in Australia (four and ten) and is the sire of five Australian Champions and Grand sire of another two Champions (one being a Gr Ch) with many others well on the way.



*Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD by Am Ch Vanreel's Lethal Weapon out of Can Ch Honor's Wild At Heart CD CGC, bred and owned by P Lindstrom.*

From his first litter of four, which was born in December 1999, came Aust Ch Savaneta Wild Thing (AI) [Trevor], Aust Ch Savaneta Wild At Heart (AI) [Erin] and Aust Ch Savaneta Born To Be Wild (AI) [Mandy], the mother of this litter was Aust Ch Chipala Have A Little Faith. All three had very successful show careers with Mandy being BCC & R/U BOB at the Adelaide Royal in 2001 at just 20mths of age. Erin only ever produced one puppy which is the highly successful Gr Ch Savaneta Hearts On Fire [Buffy]. Buffy was the Top Gundog Bitch in SA in 2005 and 2006.

Due to prostate problems Pillsbury was desexed at 3½ years of age only having sired 1 litter in the US and 2 litters in Australia. Frozen semen is still in storage from Pillsbury, both in Australia and the USA.

Progeny in Australia for Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD:

- Aust Ch Savaneta Wild Thing (AI)
- Aust Ch Savaneta Wild At Heart (AI)
- Aust Ch Savaneta Born To Be Wild (AI)
- Aust Ch Savaneta Worth The Wait CCD ET (AI)
- Aust Ch Savaneta Almost Heaven (AI)



*Aust Ch Savaneta Wild At Heart (AI) by Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD out of Aust Ch Chipala Have A Little Faith, bred and owned by P Goodall and S Rammell.*



*Aust Ch Savaneta Born To Be Wild (AI) by Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD out of Aust Ch Chipala Have A Little Faith, bred and owned by P Goodall and S Rammell.*

*At the time of writing, American bred dogs which have attained their Championship titles in Australasia are NZ Ch Darrowby Ranchosierra Reggae CDX (Imp USA) by Am/Can Ch Pebwin Excel Am/Can CD OS out of Ranchosierra Disco Volante bred by D D' Asaro and owned by Karen Parnell, Aust Ch Cornerstone's California Tan CD ET (Imp USA) by Am Ch Auric's Sunshine Boutoniere SDHF out of Honor's McBear Hug Your Teddi bred by Mr and Mrs Bryant and owned by Anthea Adamopoulos, Aust/Can/UKC Ch Quapaws Camelot's to OZ and Back CCA (Imp USA) by Camelot's Heart A Fire out of Camelot's Okeechobee Intoxication CCA bred by Pat Hershman and owned by Kathy Wood, Pat Hershman and Anthea Adamopoulos, Aust Ch Camelot's Always in Trouble at Wysinyg (Imp USA) Okeechobee Tribute to Johnny out of Camelot's Okeechobee Intoxication CCA bred by Pat Hershman and owned by Pat Hershman and Anthea Adamopoulos. The first Canadian bred Golden to arrive down under was on 17th December 2010. The Luceo Link (Imp Can) was bred by Elizabeth O'Brien and is owned by Piarki Kennels of New South Wales.*



*Aust Ch Savaneta Wild Thing (AI) by Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD out of Aust Ch Chipala Have A Little Faith, bred and owned by P Goodall and S Rammell.*



*Aust Ch Savaneta Worth The Wait CCD ET (AI) by Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD out of Aust Ch Savaneta Tahiti Sweetie*



*Aust Ch Savaneta Almost Heaven (AI) by Am Ch Monterey Bay Eat Your Heart Out CD out of Aust Ch Savaneta Tahiti Sweetie (AI), bred and owned by P Goodall and S Rammell*

### First 100% American lines born in Australia

Semen from Am Can Nitro's Boy Wonder TDI, CGC was bought from America to Australia in July 2008.

The first mating with this semen was to Aust Ch Gold Rush American Idol ET (Imp USA), who arrived on Australian soil in June 2006. As a result of this mating six beautiful babies were born on 21st October 2008. One boy and five girls. Repeat matings are planned for the future.

The combined pedigrees of these two dogs has brought to Australia a background of good working Golden Retrievers.

Aust Ch Gold Rush American Idol is owned by Lynn Fergusson along with the semen bought out by Am Can Nitro's Boy Wonder TDI, CGC. Semen was also purchased by Paula Goodall and Sheila Rammel at the same time.



*Am & Can Ch Nitros Boy Wonder OS SDHF CGC TDI by Am Ch Faera's Starlight OS out of Am & Can Ch Nitro's Blaze of Glory CGC TDI, bred and owned by M R MacQueen.*



*First full American litter in Australia. Cbipala puppies.*

2.13.1 DOGS FROM AUSTRALIA WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THE USA					
Title	Name of Dog	Sire	Dam	Bred by	Owned by
Am Ch	Nordlys Australis (Imp Aust)	Aust Ch Calrossie of Westley (Imp UK)	Aust Ch Camrose Antanya (Imp UK)	Mr & Mrs W F Mitchell	Karl & Lei Taft
Am Ch	Semperidem Sunrunner (Imp Aust)	Aust Ch Deremar Duke (Imp UK)	Aust Ch Chantesuta Arabella	Mr R E Betteridge	Karl & Lei Taft
Am Ch	Semperidem Sunflower (Imp Aust)	Aust Ch Deremar Duke (Imp UK)	Aust Ch Chantesuta Arabella	Mr R E Betteridge	Karl & Lei Taft
Am Ch	Karrell Joint Venture (Imp Aust) JWC	Aust Ch Balandra Delta Darius UD	Aust Ch Karrell Happy Union	Mr & Mrs JRE Trout	Ms Donahey & Ms M Burke
Am Ch	Goldtreve Campaigner (Imp Aust) OS	Aust Ch Goldtreve Cameron (AI)	Goldtreve Golden Jazz	Mr & Mrs F Hession	Cherie Berger
Am/Can/Aust Ch	Ranchosierra El Chicco (Imp Aust)	Aust Ch Santamaria San Pedro	Santamaria Holly	Mr & Mrs P J Vinall	Michelle Vinall
Am Ch	Alubyc Trelawny (Imp Aust)	Firegold Farley	Kiltorcan Mitzee	Mrs K Vowell	Karl & Lei Taft
Am Ch	Perrecca Grenada (Imp Aust)	Aust/Eng Ch Stanroph Shogun JW	Aust Ch Perrecca Adelaide	Mrs C M Perry	Lei Taft
Am/Can Ch	Goldtreve Sydney Traveler (Imp Aust)	Aust Gr Ch Goldtreve Camrose Kyva	Aust Ch Goldtreve Wild Chili Pepper	Mrs and Mrs F Hession	Linda Schultz

## A word from Anthea Adamopolous (*Wysimyg Australia*)

Cornerstone's California Tan (Imp USA). Tanner was a joy to own. Since he arrived from the good Ol' US of A he has paved the way for the American Golden Retriever's here in Australia, for being the first for Showing And Breeding purposes to arrive down-under in 1999. Tanner proved that there is room for American Goldens in Australian showrings. A comment that was made when a NZ breeder made a statement that there was no room to accommodate American Goldens in our showing. Tanner made his title extremely easily, with the fringe benefit of also getting awarded Runner up in Group that same day. To search for a pedigree and a breeder from the US that was going to be the benchmark for these lines in Australia was a lengthy search. I knew what I wanted but now I had to find how to go about it. A lot of phone calls, a lot of letters, a lot of promises. Finally I found a breeder/judge who was honest with me as to what Australia needed (as she had previously judged in Australia as well as imported a couple of dogs from Australia). She gave me an insight to what I should consider the highest priority on my search for helping improve or at least help increase the gene pool in Australia. She gave me the strengths and weaknesses, and also told me how to go about breeding the "future" imported dog I was to choose/ introduce to our Australian Goldens. I can always remember her telling me to do the opposite of what she does with her breeding in the US (as she had imported eleven dogs from Australia, Europe, and the UK). She told me to introduce my US lines to compliment the Australian dogs, just as she has to do the opposite and introduce the English lines to compliment the US dogs. The weakness she found in the Aussie/UK dogs that the US lines could help in was their rear ends.

I finally found a breeder that was willing to export. This was my next mission. As a lot of breeders want the big dollars but don't want to send the quality you have now paid for. Gina and Robert Bryant of Cornerstone Goldens had two litters that were due. I was so happy when she sent a puppy package straight out to me in the mail which included all clearances, photos of parents and history of the parentage. However while these litters were growing Gina was honest with me to say that the pups were not of interest to her out of these litters, and had given me the option to either take one on chance, or to take an older show male that was recently returned as he was a bad chewer. At that stage I had an English Setter who was a consistent chewer and an escape artist. So I told her that if I had a yard that was Honey proof then I have a yard that is Tanner proof. So the long dragged out five months of titre testing started. It was like it was forever. The big day arrived and poor Tanner

arrived in Perth on a 42 degree day. Leaving California Mountain Snow to our heat. I took up bottles of frozen water to lay on and a cool bed. These were chewed on within a couple of hours. Because of him being a larger dog and hot, the Quarantine station allowed him to stay out in a larger run. I was first greeted by a bucket filled with broken wood. When I asked what it was. The girl told me it was originally a chair that was sitting in the dog run. My first introduction to Tanner in Oz!!

The rest is history....His progeny are also helping him make his mark, by all his kids that have made it to the show ring they have won an "in Group" Award already. And now his grand and great grandkids are winning. Tanner was a well travelled dog, at the time of his show career, he achieved to be the only modern day Golden Retriever to win a Best in Group in four different states. (To our knowledge and the best of our searching records). However that has since been beaten but not by another import. Tanners challenge consisted that all but two of his challenge certificates were made up of 25 points. After Tanners show career slowed down, Tanner was sent to Brisbane and while there achieved his Obedience and Endurance Trials after nearly losing his life from eating a stuffed toy and it lodging in his stomach. It took 3 incisions to get the stuffing all out and 3 months later he gained his ET



*Aust Ch Cornerstones Californian Tan (Imp USA) by Am Ch Auric's Sunshine Boutoniere SDHF out of Honor's McBear Hug Your Teddi, bred by Mrs G & Mr R Bryant owned by A Adamopolous.*

title. To gain an ET title you must at a steady pace run 21 kmls and complete an obedience test after. (I think at that point he was one of the first imported Golden Retrievers to gain this title to his name). A few months after this happened, Tanner was then bitten by a brown snake. Still recovering from this the people he was training with took him to the Nationals for an Obedience Trial. He was awarded at the Obedience but this was going to be his last award ever gained. He came back and sadly passed away a few weeks later on the operating table at the vets during the night. After all that he went through, his heart had pulled him through everything but gave way in the end.

We are so proud of Tanner's outstanding achievements. There will never be another boy like him. Maybe close, but never the same. He is behind all of our current dogs, and we are proud of this fact, as Tanner was the first boy out from the US and his progeny are still producing winners. His final litter he produced gained two show pups, both winning their classes at the Sydney 2004 Nationals and the bitch going onto winning Best Baby in Show. She also was sent to the US and has since gained her Canadian title and has produced a stunning litter. In 2001 we had another daughter that was sent to the US (Wysiwyg Gotitmade Blvd) was Best of Winners at her first show in the USA, and is now behind a number of dogs that have gained their Junior Hunter titles and Obedience Titles in the US. Tanner was proof of exceptional selective line breeding. Of Tanners 1st four generations, twenty five out of thirty dogs mentioned are Am and/or Am/Can Champions. Twenty four out of thirty are also mentioned in the Golden Retriever Hall of Fame as showdog Hall of Fame and/or outstanding sire or dam.

Americans had to start somewhere with only six generations back Tanner had English imports such as Deerflite Selina whose sire was Eng Ch Concord or Yeo. Also Footprint of Yeo and many others. So of these top dogs are....His sire: BIS Am Ch Auric's Sunshine Boutoniere (Tux) SDHF. At four years of age he was retired from showing due to achieving enough. Both grandsires BIS Am Ch Faera's Destiny Kodiak Kidd and Am Ch Faera's Future Classic (Thunder) (sire of over 100 Ch's) also being full brothers and in the Hall of Fame as SDHF and OS. Thunder was also No 1 sire in 1995 and RWD GRCA National Specialty winner at seven months G.Grandsire: BIS, BISS Am Ch Asterling's Wild Blue Yonder (James)- GRCA SDHF/OS No. 1 Golden Retriever in US 1992. All time top winning Golden in history with fifty one All Breed BIS and twenty four Specialty BOB and Winner of 1992 Purina Invitational, taking BIS over three hundred and fifty of America's top AKC show dogs. Owner/breeder/handled.G.Granddam: Am Ch Honor's Pucker Up (Kiss) GRCA O/D. owner/breeder/handled.

No 3 in the US 1990. G.Grandsire: BIG, BISS Am.Ch. Rosewind's Ashford Murphy-GRCA OS & SDHF, Multi BIS & BISS winner. Ranking among top Golden Retrievers for 1986 to 1989. included No 2 in US 1988 and No 1 1989. G.G. Grandsire and Double Cross GGG Grandsire BIS Am Ch Asterlings Austin Healey (Gunnar) GRCA OS & SDHF GG Grandsire Am Ch Beckwiths Justa Tucker Bear- SDHF/OS Took thirty two BOB's in 1984 and twenty four Group Placements.

Double cross GG Granddam and all up eight time cross: BIS, BISS Am Ch. Amberac's Asterling Aruba – OD One of the 1st bitches to ever enter the show dog hall of fame. Still holds the record for being No 1 Dam producing thirty nine pups with thirty two making US titles. We now have progressed with Simon who has an even older and yet still exciting US pedigree than what Tanner had Rowdy (Ch Abshe Excel). Rowdy was a boy that for me was well awaited. All I wanted was a Harry pup. Ever since I first handled Harry (Ch Alubyc SS Enterprise) in child handlers, I knew I wanted a Harry pup. At the time our English Setters and Greyhounds ruled our yard so I couldn't have a Golden, but when the time came for me to have my choice of dog, Rowdy came along.

He wasn't a son of Harry, but a grandson. This was close enough I thought. We were not showing at the time that I got Rowdy. And I did the biggest no no a breeder could do, but I only wanted a pet, so I rang from an advertisement in the newspaper. The woman who I spoke to never ever gave me her name, but we spoke for a while and I told her what dog I wanted my boy to look like. She then asked if I had spoken to Karen (Alubyc kennels) myself as her litter was definitely not good enough to sell me a pup from (honesty from a breeder...wow!). About 2 days later I was sitting and



*Anthea and her Golden Retrievers.*

having dinner when a phone call came in. I answered the phone to hear this woman say, Anthea?! I hear you are looking for a Golden Retriever?! I chuckled and said yes. I want Harry. It was Karen (Alubyc Kennels). She then went on to tell me that she had two litters I could look at. One litter was nearly ready and to call the people as she was to take a pup from the litter but didn't have room for it, so I could take my choice which would be the pup she would have taken from it. She asked if I wanted a male or female, which at that time I didn't care. But a few days later she rang and told me to take a male, which was the best decision she could have made for me. So off I went, all excited. Pups on the table, pups behind a fence, they were just calling me but among them all I found my boy. Two weeks later and I picked him up put him on the passenger seat, but he kept creeping over and he sat on my lap in the drivers seat all the way home. This was the beginning of a beautiful friendship. Rowdy was never JUST a dog. He was a family's best friend. He taught my eldest how to walk, he gave me a laugh and he gave others in the family a friend at their time of need. Rowdy was a true character and hated being in trouble. He was definitely human. Rowdy did all he could for me. Best in Shows, multi in group and show winner, Perth Royal BOB winner, he was always up there in the tallies for showing, in WA, NSW and QLD and producer of the dogs behind my stock today. His first show was in QLD where he got 2nd out of 2. I even remember the judge (Mrs M Lodder) who stated as she went over him, oh he likes his food way too much and has teeth like a mangrove swamp. The poor thing was teething bad but never went off his food enough to make a dint in his waistline for his first day out. But we managed to not look back and a big move to Perth, had Rowdy's first show at Bunbury under a local judge.

He was BOB winner from Minor Puppy, a week later we were in the City and he won again BOB from Minor Puppy. I still have a copy of the GRCWA Newsletter where the report said an Eastern State Dog had won BOB at these two shows. No name, but just an Eastern State Dog. From that moment they knew who Rowdy was and he was always up there for the points and wins. Rowdy travelled back and forth with me to different states. Taking out a BIS in QLD and Multiple BIG's.

He passed away only ten days after his 6th Birthday. I was called to say he passed away at the Vet, I thought that I was ok with dealing with it, but when I got off the phone I was sitting beside the radio and the song playing was Mel C's "Things Will Never Be the Same Again". While hearing this I broke down crying. To this day I think of Rowdy every time this song is played. I will never forget this great dog and his personality will never be matched. Rowdy was a one off, no matter how much I try, Rowdy has left me, but the memory

of him never will. He never left my side for anything, travelled Australia with me, and knew everything I was thinking. He was my baby, a clown and sadly missed by all, but never ever will be forgotten. Thank you Rowdy for coming into my life and being everything I ever wanted. He was definitely a wanted part of my life. And sometimes I feel that things will never be the same again



*Aust Ch Ashby Excel by Aust Ch Alubyc Tullymorgan out of Wembury Lady Sheba bred by Mrs & Mrs C Gilmore owned by A Adamopoulos.*



*Aust Can UKC Ch Quapaws Camelot's To Oz and Back CCA (Imp USA) by Camelot's Hearts A Fire out of Camelot's Okeechobee Intoxication, bred by P Herschman owned by K Wood, P Herschman and A Adamopoulos.*



*Aust Ch Wysiwyg Just Push Play by Aust Ch Savaneta Worth The Wait (AI) CCD ET out of Kingsgold Special Issue (AI), bred and owned by A Adamopoulos.*

## Interview with Bruce McLean (Kingsgold Australia)

***Bruce when did you obtain your first Golden? Can you tell us a little about it please?***

I brought my first Golden from Liz Anderson (Meykel) in 1976. Liz invited me to my very first dog show. Liz was showing her girl Ch Piarki Mighty Midge CD. While at the show I saw this dog floating around the ring, I was awe struck. He was handled by Noelene Bolton. The dogs name Aus Ch Queenlee Cassius CDX, QC, CM (Cassius). I told Liz that if she ever used that dog over her girl, I would love to have pick bitch. Thus my first Golden was Meykel Aztec Queen.

***Who were your mentors in the early years?***

My mentor in the early years was Noelene Bolton (Queenlee). I spent many weekends at their home. Noelene instructed me on all aspects of the Breed, conformation, movement and construction. The greatest aspect was, why the Golden Retriever is constructed the way it is.

***Which dogs did you particularly admire when you first started to show?***

By the time I started showing, Cassius was retired, but Noelene was still showing Ch Queenlee Debonair AOC, QC (Flash). He was a handler's dream. In a lineup of dogs, he stood out. You couldn't take your eyes off him.

***You have held a number of administrative positions over the years. Can you tell us a little about these please?***

I believe that one must be involved in all aspects of the hobby you are interested in. Showing and breeding is a big part of my life. So I became a committee member of the GRC of NSW. I stayed on the committee for many years, then became Vice President for several more years. I was then nominated for the vacant President's position. I held this position for several years and was honored to still be President when the GRC of NSW held the 2004 National. This was the largest gathering of Golden Retrievers in Australia.

***Can you tell us about your successful wins in Australia please?***

My biggest win was at the 1986 GRC of Victoria show with Ch Kingsgold Borna Star winning Challenge Bitch under English breed specialist Mrs Valerie Foss. Star's litter brother went Res Ch at the GRC of NSW under Dr Harry Spira.

***Some years ago you became interested in American lines? Can you tell us a little about the introduction of these lines into Australasia please?***

In 2001 I flew to USA to see the GRCA National. I had heard many things about heads and fronts, on the

American Golden and wanted to see for myself. Yes, most heads were finer and most front were lacking angle but the movement and presence was outstanding. I was lucky to see Ch Boitano's Band on the Run to Abelard (Quest) and meet his owner Deborah Blair (Abelard Golden Retrievers). Quest had the movement and presence but also had a great head and front angles. My mind started to go into overdrive. What if I crossed this American dog with my English type Golden back in Australia. Deborah was also interested in introducing new lines into her Kennel. After returning to Australia we stayed in contact, the result being that in October 2002 I shipped a puppy bitch Kingsgold Rythem N Blues (Pearl) to Deborah and Deborah shipped frozen semen from Quest to me. No money was exchanged. I used the semen once and had four pups. The semen is now with Lynn Fergusson in Queensland. Since I have been living in America I have helped arrange several shipments of frozen semen to Australia.

***You made a move from Australia to North America. Can you tell us about the differences in the dogs and the show scene in these two countries please?***

I have now been living in Denver Colorado for 3 years and have been showing a bitch Ch Abelard on Walkabout to Kingsgold (Opal) by Am Can Ch Chuckanut's Party Favour O Novel SDHF from my exported bitch Kingsgold Rythem N Blues. Opal is very light in color and very English in type. It has been very hard showing her under all breed judges but all of her Majors have been under Breed specialists. What this tells me is breeder judges in the USA judge the dog and not the color or type. You now find 80% are a mid gold with light feathering. Heads and shoulders have improved greatly in the last 9 years. The hardest thing to get used to is the professional handlers. To win big time you need a professional handler on the end of the lead. The top 20 Golden in the USA are not necessarily the 20 best but the ones that are campaigned the most with big name handlers.

To attain an American Championship you must get 15 points, two wins must be 3, 4 or 5 point majors. In Colorado you need 22 dogs or 23 bitches to get a 3 point major. Champions are not included in these numbers. Colorado only has about ten All Breed shows each year, so driving many miles to shows is the norm. It is common the drive ten to fifteen hours to a show. The great thing here is the number of Golden Retriever Clubs (50). The GRCA Nationals are worth driving all the way across the country for. At the 2009 National Opal went 4th in open bitch (a class of 69) and our other English type dog (Ch Cross Creek's Timberbash Hot Shot) went 6th in open dog (a class of 65).

Several imports from Australia are being shown successfully in America.

*You have judged in several countries. Can you tell us a little about these judging appointments please?*

I have been honoured to judge in several countries, Indonesia, New Zealand, China, Canada and USA. In 2005 I judged bitches and BOB at the GRC of Canada National. My BOB was a very dark ten years old from the veteran class. In 2007 I judged Puppy Sweepstakes at the GRCA National. I have also judged two specialties in the USA and Canada. I have judged twice in China, the Golden quality isn't high overall but there are several very nice dogs. The number of show dogs in China is increasing greatly every year.

*What do you feel are the most important features of the Breed?*

Goldens are a family dog and can be trusted with young children. Goldens are so versatile, they can be found doing conformation shows, obedience, field, agility or

just being the family pet. You can never love a Golden as much as it loves you.

*What do Golden Retrievers mean to you?*

Goldens are my children, my life revolves around them. Life would be very boring without a Golden. They have taught me to be humble and live life to the fullest.

*What advice would you give newcomers coming in to the Breed?*

Read up on the Breed, ask as many questions as you can to the breeders before you pick your puppy. If in doubt walk away. Join your local GRC. Don't be afraid to ask questions to other Golden owners. You never stop learning. I know I'm still learning after 30+ Years. If you're interested in conformation shows always remember it's only a hobby.



*Bruce judging BOB at the GRCC in 2005. Am Can Ch Gowrielea's Show Off by Am & Can Ch Rush Hill's Haagen-Dazs CDX JH AX OAJ WCX VCX OS SDHF; Can CD out of Can Ch Nautilus Corn Silk Can OD WC, bred by B & L Russell owned by D Bergman and M Comeau. Photo by Oslach.*



## Interview with Michelle Strain (*Nistar Australia*)

I purchased my first Golden in 1979. I had been going to dog shows with my mother and her German Shepherds, and wanted to get more involved. So along came “Rhett”, Goldenbreed Appsie. His parents were Ch Oaklodge Vagabond & Wildsky Heather. He was not really an exceptional specimen, but did quite well for the time. There really weren’t a great deal of Goldenes around then. I eventually gave him away to a pet home in 1981, and concentrated on acquiring a foundation bitch, who turned out to be Miaura Topflight, who arrived in April, 1981.

My biggest mentor in the early days was Delma Marshall (Oaklodge). Del was a great help to me, teaching me how to show well, and also taught me how to trim a Golden to perfection. Another person I learnt a lot from was Shirley Lee (Santamaria). Shirley was a great asset to my learning, and was an invaluable source of information regarding research into hereditary problems. Both these ladies also helped me a great deal with regards to my English imports. Some dogs I admired were Eng Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher, Ch Goldtreve Cameron (AI), Ch Oaklodge Vagabond, Ch Queenlee Debonair AOC QC. There were many many more that I would have loved to own and left a lasting impression.

I’ve owned many dogs over the years, some of whom have left a lasting impression. I will never forget my two imports, as they were incredibly different to what I had been used to for the time, and both of them are behind some of the most influential dogs and kennels of today. They both have many Champion/Grand Champion/Obedience titled descendants all over Australia and Overseas. I have also owned/bred dogs that have done exceptionally well at Specialty shows, and many more that are/were multi in group/show winners.

I am Moderator/Owner of two Groups on the internet. I founded the Goldenes Down Under Show Results group in March 2005, as I felt it was needed for exhibitors in conformation/obedience to post show/obedience results and have a brag if they wanted to. I also founded US Goldenes Down Under in September 2008, for owners of and anyone interested in American Goldenes in Australia to swap ideas, gain knowledge etc.

I think the most important feature of our Breed is their wonderful temperament, and their ability to take whatever life gives to them in their stride. The willingness to learn and please is what makes them the popular Breed of dog that they are. They are always ready for a show, game of fetch, walks in the park, or just happy to join in whatever is happening. A truly versatile Breed.

Goldenes have changed a great deal since I first became involved. Goldenes used to be a good size, and it was

always easy to distinguish between the sexes. Nowadays, size has altered drastically, to a point where we have lost length of leg, making the difference between dogs and bitches very slight. Another thing we seem to be losing is pigmentation and colour. It is for this reason I have decided to include American lines in my breeding programme, as it has given me back height and pigment/colour. Temperament seems also to be more of an issue now, with many timid or aggressive dogs appearing.

I feel that we really all need to be more open with what we are finding in our kennels, and not turning a blind eye to problems that are occurring more frequently. A great deal can be learnt from problems that are happening/emerging in the Breed overseas, and we should not always be so quick to rush out and use the latest new import without thoroughly researching any background history first. One thing which was discussed at the International Forum I attended at the Golden Retriever Club Of America National Specialty in 2007 was the fact that all over the world, Goldenes have the same problems, some have problems that have not occurred elsewhere, but the lack of communication worldwide is prohibiting us from sharing & learning from each others’ mistakes/experiences.

The best advice I could give to a newcomer would be to not be afraid to ask for help. We all had to start somewhere, and if we are not prepared to help new owners/exhibitors, then the future of the Breed most surely will NOT benefit. Another piece of advice I would give, is that you never, ever stop learning, and don’t ever think you know it all. I’m still learning new things after 30 years.

### Information on American dogs/lines

I was introduced to the American bloodlines through Bruce McLean (Kingsgold), when he bred his first half American litter in 2002. It was in 2006, when Kingsgold Special Edition (AI) (S Am Ch Boitano’s Band On The Run To Abelard OS – D Kingsgold Ohug Your Teddi) was given to me by Bruce when he departed on his extended holiday to the United States. Abby is  $\frac{3}{4}$  US breeding, and I thought that as I now owned a Golden with American breeding, I might as well use it. I purchased “Murray”, Savaneta Fire Within (S Ch Fernfall Sea Legend from Gr Ch Savaneta Fire N Ice (AI)), from Paula Goodall & Sheila Rammell (Savaneta) in February 2007. He is  $\frac{1}{4}$  American breeding, and has sired some lovely puppies to date. I bred my first almost full American litter in August, 2007, and kept a bitch, Nistar Worthy Edition (S Ch Savaneta Worth The Wait CCD ET from Kingsgold Special Edition (AI)). This litter was kindly whelped and reared by Lynn Fergusson while I went to America for the National. I plan to breed with “Bianca” late 2009.

I also have a dog in the US, Nistar's Washington Statesman, who is being run on and campaigned by breeder Bruce McLean before coming to Australia. "Ash" is sired by Can Ch Snowtree's Grease from Abelard On Walkabout To Kingsgold. His dam is out of a bitch Bruce exported to the US in 2002, and is pointed towards her Am Ch title. His sire is also pointed towards his Am Ch title. "Ash" is from the first litter bred by Bruce in America, and is doing extremely well at shows.



*Nistar Washington Statesman by Am & Can Ch Snowtree's Grease! by Ch Abelard On Walkabout To Kingsgold, bred by B McLean owned by B & A McLean and J & Be Angrisani. Photo by Don Meyer.*



*Rueberry Figero (Imp UK) by Christopher of Lilling out of Lawnwoods Wait and See, bred by E Berry owned by M Strain. Photo by Trafford.*

Early in 2009, I purchased another dog from Paula & Sheila with almost full American breeding, Savaneta Thanks F The Memories (AI) (S Am Can Ch Abelard's Mister Fizz from Gr Ch Savaneta Fire N Ice (AI). "Cody" will be an invaluable addition to my "US kennel", and with the lines I now have I will be combining Aust, US and European breeding to further improve on my success.



*Kingsgold Special Edition (AI) by Am Ch Boitanos Band on the Run to Abelard OS out of Kingsgold O'Hug Your Teddi, bred by B McLean owned by M Strain.*



*Aust Ch Nistar Worthy Edition by Aust Ch Savaneta Worth The Wait (AI) CCD ET out of Kingsgold Special Edition (AI), bred and owned by M Strain.*



*Savaneta Thanks F The Memories (AI) by Am & Can Ch Abelard's Mister Fizz out of Aust Gr Ch Savaneta Fire N Ice (AI), bred by P Goodall and S Rammell owned by M Strain.*

## NZ CH Darrowby Ranchosierra Reggae (Imp USA) CDX

*Courtesy Christine Martin (Seagold New Zealand)*

This is a story that is much bigger than just my time with Marley (NZ Ch Darrowby Ranchosierra Reggae (Imp USA) CDX) and it is a mere fraction of the legend that Marley is.

I was given an opportunity to live and work in Christchurch for six months and not being one to be parted from my beloved Golden (Ginny) I asked Karen Parnell if she knew of anyone I might be able to board with, including Ginny.

Karen very kindly not only opened her home to me, but also her life, her friends and her canine companions, Marley, Dollar and Marley's daughter, Tussock. A world Karen calls her family. Obedience, breed showing, trialling and simply hanging out with Golden and gundogs throughout the South Island.

Marley and Ginny immediately teamed up as the oldies of the then extended family and Ginny could not have asked for a more gentlemanly companion than Marley.

Marley came to Karen when he was two. He had been one of the canine stars of the TV mini series Swiss Family Robinson (a six DVD set) and instead of returning to USA with his family at the completion of filming, Marley remained in New Zealand moving to Christchurch for the majority of his life. Prior to being 'discovered', Marley had been living with Glenys Hobbs – joining her Golden team on the show circuit.

Marley, as the movie star, was just one of his many talents, others included the early Tux TV advert and the Tuffy Handitowels advert. Marley qualified CDX, competed in Test A obedience, was a multi Gundog group winner and was a consistent place getter at specialty breed shows. He gained his NZ breed Championship title, the first USA bred Golden in the South Pacific to do so and he was a multi All Breeds Group winner.

### Championship Breed Shows

- 18 Show Challenges (Judges hailing from Australia, Japan, Canada and New Zealand)
- 4 Reserve Challenges
- 16 Best of Breed
- 6 Reserve Best of Breed
- 2 Best Gundog in Show and Best Open Gundog in Show
- 3 Reserve Best Gundog in Show

- Best Junior in Show at Golden Retriever Club Championship Show in 1996 (Auckland)
- Best Veteran In Show at Southern Golden Retriever Club Championship show in 2006 (Christchurch)

### Obedience Trials

- Winner Special Beginners and 3rd place Novice SGRC Open Obedience Trial 1998
- Winner Novice at Waimakariri Dog Training Club 2001
- Winner of two Novices at South Otago Gundog Training Club 2001
- Geraldine Obedience Champs 2001, 3rd Novice after run-off for 1st place
- Winner of Special Beginners and Novice competitions at SGRC Club Nights
- Multi placings in Championship Special Beginners, Novice and Test A Trials
- Gundog Field Trials
- Winner Canterbury Gundog Club Championships Novice Aggregate 1999
- 3rd Novice dog at Greenstone 100 trial (West Coast) in 1998
- 1999 North Island Championships Novice Aggregate third place
- 1999 North Island Championships Novice Land third place
- 2nd Novice dog at Greenstone 100 trial (West Coast) in 2000
- 2000 South Island Championships Limit Aggregate second place

But any tribute to Marley is not complete without Marley the Gentleman. Words cannot describe how adaptable and accepting this gentleman was, staying with friends when Karen was away and at times, with strangers when away for matings. No one ever thought twice about having Marley to stay, he was such an easy dog to care for. He was a dog of many Mums, his favourite being Nikki and her family.

In September 2007 I had the pleasure of competing in a test A open obedience trial with Marley (at 12 ½ years we were there for the veteran sash!). Marley won the hearts of the fellow competitors working somewhat slowly through the heelwork and recall (after all he was quite old to be competing) and then fair GALLOPED out for the retrieve, which really showed what he USED to do!

There can be no greater tribute to Marley than the love of his extended family. Those who proudly own his

progeny and grand progeny are eternally grateful for the soundness and the wonderful temperament, working ability and biddableness that Marley passed on to his children. This is reflected in the successes achieved by these dogs Marley sired or was grand sire to;

- Gr Ft Ch Goldenflite El Greco QC
- Ob Gr Ch Benlea First Footing AD CDX
- Ch & Ob Gr Ch Benlea Shelby Right CDX
- Ob Ch Benlea Axel Rose CDX
- Ob Ch Benlea Brave Heart Brady
- Ob Ch Benlea Flash Back CDX
- Ob.Ch Benlea Jack Of All Trades CDX.
- Ch Winterlea Connoisseur
- Achilty Tfortango ADX Advanced Gold (an agility challenge winner)
- Dindigold Larrikin Lady N.R.D. (Australia)
- Dindigold True Blue R.R.D. (Australia)
- Dindigold Fair Dinkum R.R.D. (Australia)
- Rivermoy Olomana of Moorfield CD (Hawaii)
- Rivermoy Pips Princess of Moorfield CDX
- Rivermoy Don't Give A Dam QC

Still more are competing and working toward titles among them:

- Rivermoy Ms Smarty Pants – competing in Test C
- Benlea Flame of Phoenix – competing in All Age Retriever trials in Australia

I know Karen would want me to acknowledge the breeders and the owners and handlers for providing homes where these dogs are not only loved but could reach their full potential. To the best of our knowledge no other stud dog has sired champions in all three realms (or indeed – sired challenge winners in FOUR disciplines) and he was the sire of the breeds first Dual Champion bitch in obedience and show disciplines.

To Marley, I remember you with such love. The never-ending elbow nudges, so many evenings at Karen's with your head and/or your paw in my lap. Sadly my attempt to bring a little Marley home produced just one pup. Sweet little Maisey is the spitting image of her Dad and so very loved by the family who bred her.

When Karen left to go to Australia we knew Marley was aging rapidly. His liver was struggling but he seemed to do so well on the new diet and antibiotics. I was able to report to Karen, he was even galloping (as old dogs do) at the park. Then Sunday 4th May I woke to Marley collapsing beside my bed. The end was near. I had my instructions but it still tears us apart to hold our friends as we help them to the bridge. But ah.... just think of the tales Marley will be telling Amber and Bran, who will have met him when he arrived.....

Marley you have left a legacy for which so many people are truly grateful and thankfully, one that will live on in your progeny. How could we ever have thanked you?



*NZ Ch Darrowby Ranchosierra Reggae (Imp USA) CDX by Am & Can Ch Pebwin Excel Am & Can CD OS out of Ranchosierra Disco Volante, bred by D D'Asaro owned by K Parnell.*